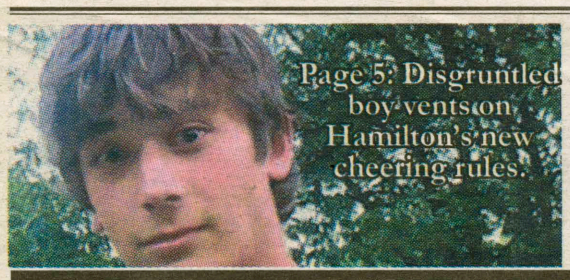

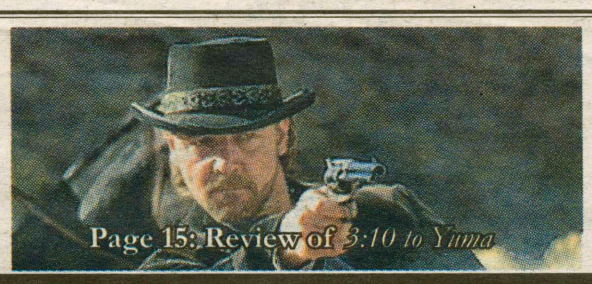

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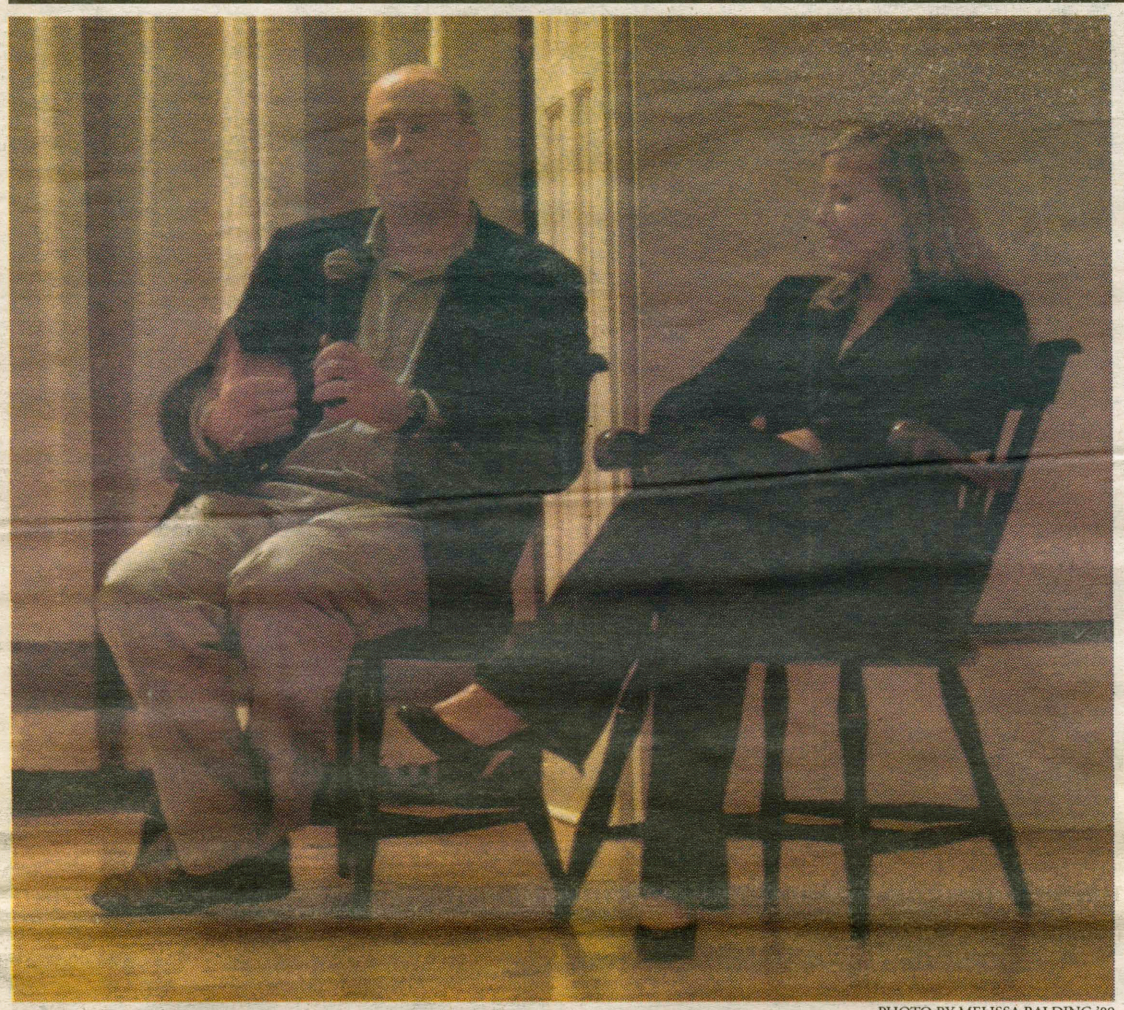


PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING '09

Alicia Davis '97 and Marc Elias '90 returned to the hill to discuss political elections.

Hamilton Kicks Off Election Season with Two Alumni Guests

by Kara Labs '11
News Writer

On the evening of Sunday September 9, the Hamilton community was pleased to welcome two politically powerful alumni to kick off the election season on the hill. During "A Conversation About the 2006 and 2008 Elections," Alicia Davis '97 and Marc Elias '90 shared their experience and knowledge of campaigns obtained through political work since graduating from Hamilton.

The informal talk in the Chapel began with introductions. Davis, who majored in Spanish and Government at Hamilton, previously worked as the Director of External Affairs for the 2004 Republican National Convention. She worked in the White House as the Associate Director of the White House Office of Political Affairs under Ken Milburn. Currently she works for Targetpoint Consulting which specializes in microtargeting and surveying voters.

Elias graduated from Hamilton with a degree in government and went on to receive a M.A. in Political Science from Duke University in '93. He decided to pursue law, specializing in political law. In the 1990's Elias worked on many House and Senate campaigns. He also worked for the Kerry-Edwards campaign in 2004 as a General Counsel and as Counsel for the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. Currently he is a partner at Perkins Coie LLP law firm.

During the first part of the discussion, Government Professors Phil Klinkner and Theodore Eismeier asked questions of the two alumni. Professor Eismeier asked about party building, and said, "Politicians are like generals, always fighting the last war." Davis said that although the Republican Party could be worse off, it should go back to being a party of change and reform. She said that Republicans should examine "the things that we were built on, as well as take advantage of the new media of partisan blogging." She also said that Republicans need to address ethics and integrity issues.

Elias agreed that there is a lesson to be offered to both parties- if ethics is part of the platform, then that party will pick up seats. He went on to say, "It is tough to be a Republican in a swing state because of the war." He said that although a lot people look at historical trends, the elections are constantly being reshaped and changed. According to Elias, it is not good to stay focused in the past.

Klinkner asked why each person wanted to get into politics. Both Davis and Elias gave similar answers in mentioning the Hamilton experience and the wonderful professors they had. Davis also stated that she really cared about the Republican party, which drove her to work in politics. Elias said that he "was always interested in politics," and said that he was the first student to display a Ducacus-Benson sign in his dorm window.

Eismeier then asked about partisan bloggers and how the current election will be affected

*see **Election**, page 3*

Hamilton Reflects On September 11

by Martin E. Connor '09
Editor-in-Chief

Tuesday marked the anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, as did close to 3,000 miniature American flags lining Martin's Way to honor the victims of six years past and those who they left behind. As students went about their daily business, the flags had their effect, inciting thoughts of a day years gone, but still capable of stirring a sharp twinge in most.

As in years past, the Hamilton community came together to remember the day, and everything it has come to connote. Students, organized by the Hamilton Republicans and Hamilton Democrats, volunteered their time to place all the flags in the ground on Monday night. The same students who organized the flag layout also came together, in conjunction with the Chaplain's Office and the Christian Fellowship, to organize the events for Tuesday.

The memorial events included a moment of silence at noon in Commons and a brief ceremony that took place outside of Commons at 4 p.m. Although the ceremony was organized at the last minute and only attended by a handful of students, it had all the elements necessary to bring together those few who attended. Opening words by Hamilton College Chaplain Jeffrey McArn flowed smoothly into a rendition of the Star Spangled Banner by members of the Hamilton choir. Speeches by Rachel Horowitz '09, secretary-treasurer of the Hamilton Democrats, and John McRae '09, president of the Hamilton Republicans, followed. Elsewhere on campus members of Tau Kappa Epsilon collected donations for the red cross.

Raindrops began to fall softly and sparsely on the students and administrators gathered as the last notes of God Bless America rang clear from the choir members, marking the end of the brief, but meaningful, ceremony.

PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING '09

Nearly 3,000 American flags lined Martin's Way to commemorate the victims of the 2001 terrorist attacks.

Better, Faster, Smarter: The Class of 2011

by Eloise Walter '11
News Writer

Members of the class of 2011 survived Hamilton's most selective admissions year ever recorded. In a record pool of 4,962 applicants, the acceptance rate dropped from the 2006 rate of 33 percent to 28 percent in 2007. A total of 1,376 applicants were accepted, the lowest acceptance rate since 1982. Thirty four percent of accepted students chose to attend Hamilton, making for a class of 470 students.

The academic quality of the Class of 2011 is also noteworthy, as 74 percent of first years graduated in the top 10 percent of their class and 89 percent graduated in the top 20 percent. SAT critical reading and math scores were at a record high of 1356, an increase of 13 points compared to last year's scores. For the first time, Hamilton considered SAT Writing scores; and admits had an average score of 670.

Hailing from 41 states and

*see **Class of 2011**, page 3*

Campus Safety Supervisor Position Revamped

by Meredith Kennedy '09
News Writer

PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.HAMILTON.EDU

Michael Schwartz, Wayne Gentile, and Michael Jones are sharing the three Campus Safety supervisor shifts to ensure there is always a supervisor available on campus.

The Department of Campus Safety recently made valuable administrative changes to strengthen an ongoing effort to protect and ensure the safety of the Hamilton College community.

In addition to the two patrol officers and one dispatcher on duty during each shift—day, evening, and night—there is now an administrative supervisor to ensure more efficient service. Michael Schwartz, Wayne Gentile, and Michael Jones are now sharing administrative responsibilities between the three shifts.

After an extensive review of personnel and resources, Director of Campus Safety Patricia Ingalls is pleased to announce the change in staffing, which the department has gradually been moving into and thinking about for well over a year. Ingalls notes that a tight budget and lack of sufficient staff are some reasons that this change was not accomplished sooner. However, in the wake of the Virginia Tech tragedy, improving security is a top priority for Campus Safety.

Although the additional supervision took a long time to implement, Ingalls feels it was worth the wait. She said, "this is a positive change for the community." Students, families, and other departments have already voiced their approval of the enhanced services. With all the challenges that colleges and universities face today, community members are comforted to know that our administration is doing everything they can to assure the utmost safety of the student body.

As it is no secret that Friday and Saturday nights are hectic and unpredictable, it will be beneficial to have an administrator on each shift. Schwartz, who was recently promoted to a management-level position and works during the day, remarked that the additional management on duty will "prevent everyone from being tied up with one situation," and thus, Campus Safety will handle multiple emergencies more efficiently.

In addition to the increased supervision, the Department of Campus Safety hopes to further enhance their services by providing more educational programs in residence halls, and working with resident advisors to ensure that all students are both well-informed and well-protected. The newly promoted supervisors have more time to provide additional training programs for the staff. Campus Safety plans to better utilize their staff through interaction with the student body about safety needs.

The recent upgrade in staff and services in Campus Safety represents the Department's dedication to assisting the Hamilton community in a multitude of ways. Ingalls is confident that this change "is going to be wonderful." The addition of an administrative supervisor during each shift will help ensure that every student has a safe and fulfilling college experience.

Hamilton's First Diversity and Social Justice Conference Calls For Awareness and Activism

by Hali Baumstein '11
News Writer

On September 8, 2007, Hamilton hosted the Diversity and Social Justice Conference. This event featured lectures- the majority of them by Hamilton students and students from other nearby schools—that focused on various issues relating to diversity and social justice. The topics addressed, both national and international in nature, included student outreach and service work over the past summer, political issues, racism, and gender equality.

The Kirkland Endowment funded the Diversity and Social Justice Project that planned the conference. Prior to this year, similar events had been run at Hamilton, but none on a scale so big. "We're very excited about the new format," said Director of the Diversity and Social Justice Project Jinnie Garett. She expressed a hope that students will take an interest in learning about diversity and social justice issues that are becoming more prevalent in today's world.

Last year the planning committee invited students from various schools to participate in the 2007 conference. Students from Hamilton, Union, and Colgate signed up. Over the spring and summer, these students took part in various service projects or studies. Many of them, Hamilton students in particular, were service associates whom the college funded to perform service work. During the conference these students presented their findings and insights from their projects.

The conference began at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 8. Following registration and breakfast, University of Florida professor Dr. Leslie Thiele, a political scientist and philosopher, was the first to speak. Dr. Thiele delivered a speech on justice titled, "You Can Never Do Just One Thing; What Ecology Teaches Us About Social Justice." He stated, "Justice is hailed as an unmitigated good, and its pursuit has become a self-evident imperative." He voiced his opinion on the controversial nature of the pursuit of social justice in our society and said, "The pursuit of absolute justice can often create absolute injustice."

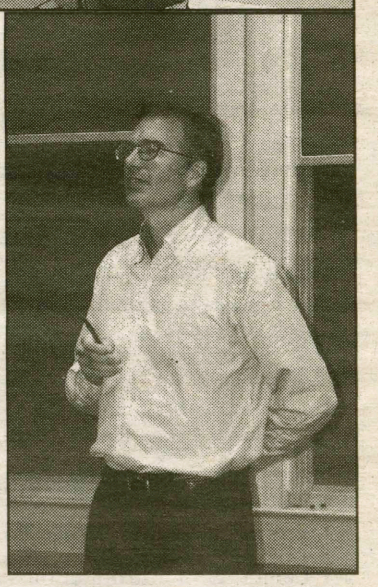
Dr. Thiele combined examples from literature, history, philosophy, and science to present his main message, which is that "everything is connected to everything else." He illustrated this in many examples, such as the link between urban crime and Type 2 diabetes. The explanation behind this statement was that people in unsafe neighborhoods tend to stay inside their homes instead of exercising, causing them to become obese, and putting them at risk to contract diabetes. Dr. Thiele ultimately revealed that the actions of one person could indirectly but drastically affect another.

Dr. Thiele emphasized that the question, "Then what?" should be asked after every action. "Inactivity is an illegitimate indulgence," he stated. "Doing nothing is a suicidal gesture." His closing message encouraged Clare Browne '11 who said, "The presentation made me rethink my actions towards the environment. Everyone needs to be more aware about leaving ecological footprints."

During the Social Diversity and Social Justice Conference, many students gave presentations on a wide range of topics including poverty in Africa, gender issues in the Middle East, and social inequities in the United States. Some presenters studied abroad to take part in their service work. Maxwell Akuamoth-Boateng '09 spent the summer in his native Ghana, helping to provide the people with the resources to take care of their dental hygiene. He said, "Living in America changes your view on a lot of things."

Other presenters, such as David Shulman, a senior at Union College, did not travel, but did intensive research instead. Through his research Shulman noted a pattern in history: "Oftentimes changes can be achieved in society through strong activist movement and political will."

Sally Powell '09, spoke about her experience living in Kenya over the summer, while Keya Advani '08, examined how the outcast group of Untouchables in India protest through literature. Yongsun Kwon '10, discussed the media's treatment of minorities after the Virginia Tech incident.



(Above) Students gath ered in the Science Center for the Diversity & Social Justice Conference on September 8, 2007. (Right) Dr. Leslie Thiele, a political scientist from University of Florida spoke to students.

The Diversity and Social Justice Conference also included two open discussions, facilitated by Hamilton students. The discussions examined on-campus climate and detailed off-campus opportunities to become involved in non-profit work. Through these open forums, even those without projects to present expressed their opinions.

Dr. Thiele and the many student presenters unearthed many unjust situations occurring in today's world. Sally Powell took a positive look on our ability to have an impact in the future and said, "Be the change in the world you wish to see."

Many Hamilton students are already involved in helping to try and make changes in the world. It is the hope of Jinnie Garrett and the planning committee that many more will continue to do so. "We want to make this conference an annual event," she said. "Everyone should have their eyes open to the world."

Election Talk With Alicia Davis '97 & Marc Elias '90

*from **Election**, page 1*

by the new media. Davis stated that the media has already had an effect on gaining grassroots volunteers and it also makes raising money easier. "It broadens the spectrum of journalism and…is changing the face of campaigns." She said that blogging humanizes the candidates.

Elias agreed and said that he doesn't believe in a world where speech is regulated, with the exception of the franchise of journalism. He said that if an individual wants to print a leaflet endorsing a candidate, there are many guidelines that have to be followed. However Fox News and the NY Times can advertise who they endorse without any regulations. He concluded that now these internet blog-spots and websites like YouTube are more important than many of the top selling newspapers.

The next question examined whether the Democrat's center of gravity blogging is stronger than Republicans. Davis stated that though this might be true, the Republicans are very active on the internet. Later she added that the changing economy has played a large role in the further development of blogging. Elias stated that this new medium is working because if a group or an organization backs a candidate they can raise a significant amount of money.

Davis also discussed Microtargeting. The goal of Microtargeting is to pick out the issues that motivate someone to vote a certain way. A Microtargeting company tries to determine how an individual will vote by looking at a person's voting history and examining factors like where he or she lives, works, and what car he or she owns.

To close the discussion both Davis and Elias talked about the candidates in the upcoming Presidential Elections and the role of New Hampshire and Iowa. Elias stated that because of the new media and the ease with which money can move today, the election could turn and change on a dime. The floor was then opened up to questions from the student audience.

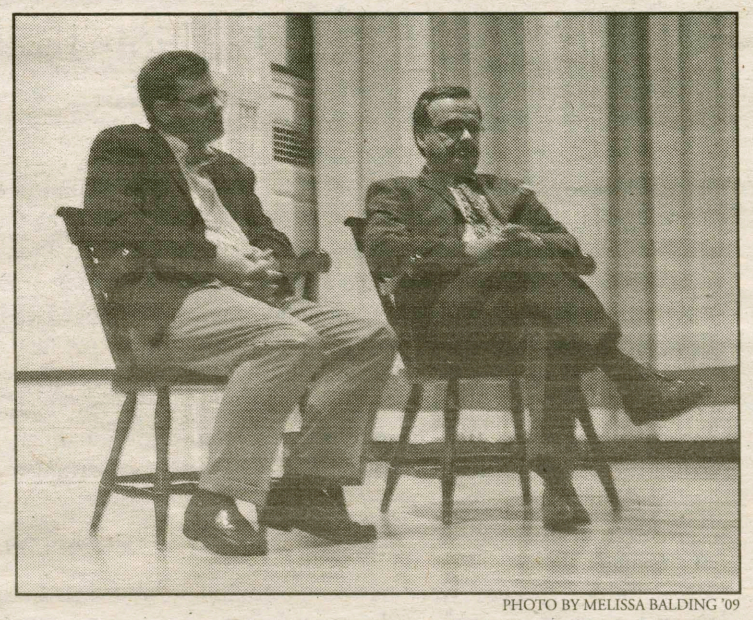


PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING '09

Dean Phil Klinkner and Professor Theodore Eismeier asked questions to facilitate discussion in the Chapel.

THE STUDENT ASSEMBLY UPDATE

A biweekly report on the Hamilton College Student Assembly

This week the Student Assembly is proud to announce:

-The Food Committee is working to get Continental breakfasts in McEwen on the weekends.

-The Student Interest Committee is planning a bus trip to the Saranac Brewery.

-We're working to get optional Communication Intensive courses added to the curriculum.

-We're working to get the Health Center opened on the weekends.

-The class election for 2011 is this Wednesday, the 19th.

*As always, the weekly minutes contain more detailed news.

The President's Report:

Freshmen, don't forget to vote in your class election this Wednesday! Check your e-mail on Wednesday for a link to the online ballot.

If you have any questions or suggestions for the Assembly, e-mail sa, slombard, or rmessier.

Yours,

Stuart Lombardi & Ryan Messier
President & Vice President of the Student Assembly

Class of 2011 Fitting In and Making It New

*from **Class of 2011**, page 1*

20 countries, the class of 2011 bolsters Hamilton's student diversity. Eighteen percent are multicultural students from the US, an increase of 4 percent from 2003.

Five percent of first years are international students; while a new statistic shows that 4 percent are also dual citizens. 29 percent of the members of the Class of 2011 are in-state students, compared to 32 percent in the Class of 2010.

Hamilton also offered 11 million dollars in merit and need-based scholarships, five million of which was accepted by 47 percent of the class. 53 percent of the Class of 2011 is female, an increase of 3 percent compared to 2005. In addition, 9 percent of students in the Class of 2011 are from the first generation in their families to attend college.

The Class of 2011 has settled in and made a strong impression on the campus community. According to Dean of Students Nancy Thompson, the first year students are doing very well and seem comfortable on campus. Thompson remarked, "I was struck by how respectful and friendly [the first years are.] They're a group of really nice people that I'm looking forward to getting to know."

First year students are forming new clubs and joining multiple activities. First year Zach Rosenbloom created Hamilton's Dukato Club, based on a recreational game, while Rachel Knight is hoping to start Hamilton's first ever Ballet Club. Several first years students also came together to create HOGS, or Hamilton's Outdoor Grilling Society.

Assistant Director of Student Activities Paul Ryan said, "Members of the class of 2011 seem very eager to take control of the Hamilton community and get involved as much as they can."

The Class of 2011 fits right in on the hill. As Dean of Admissions Monica Inzer says, "The admission staff is quite confident that this group of diverse students with broad interests, talents, and views will contribute to this community in very meaningful ways."

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEX GROSS '11

Alex Gross '11 is the President of the new HOGS Club.

Class of 2011 Election Platforms

Election To Be Held Wednesday, September 19

President

Clare Browne
Class of 2011, I need your vote. I am running for class president because I would like to represent the freshman voice on campus and lead our class assembly. I will be an active member of Hamilton's community, involved in athletics and many campus organizations, and more than willing to listen to your thoughts and apply your input. Having served for four years as class president in high school, I will bring my experience as well as new ideas to the assembly. I would love to represent our class in Student Assembly. Don't be a clown, vote Clare Browne.

Alex Gross
Life on the hill this past week has been amazing; however, there are a few problems that need fixing. While I have not been here long enough to tell you every problem around campus, I have seen a few things that should be changed most of which revolve around the dining system. I believe that McEwen should be open on the weekends and the diner should be more accessible. I am willing to work as hard as I can to make these changes and any others that are brought to my attention.

Jacob Kleinrock
Dear Classmates, as your President my goals would be twofold: to accurately represent the class in the Student Assembly and other committees, and to improve campus life for the freshman class. If elected I will promote class unity through events, and host monthly discussions where you will be able to exchange ideas with our class officers. These are just a few of my ideas, and if elected I promise to never stop working to make your college experience better. Together, we can make the class of 2011 the most outstanding class Hamilton has ever seen. With warm regards, Jacob Kleinrock

Selby McRae
It's not always easy to be the new ones on campus. My name is Selby McRae and I would like to represent you, Class of 2011, as your president. I will facilitate your transition and make your first year at Hamilton tremendous and memorable. I am personable and approachable. I have experience in various student council positions including class president. I was captain of my track team for three years, so I have many leadership qualities. I am always willing to listen and make sure your voice is heard as well as offer my ideas and advice.

Eric Velez
Hello, my name is Eric Velez, and I am running for class president. The class president should stand as the collective voice for all of our desires—making sure that our problems are not only heard, but also taken care of. One of Hamilton's characteristics is the undeniably rigorous workload. Sometimes school can be viewed as a place of endless stress and anxiety. With the power of the class president I hope to relieve some of that day-to-day stress by organizing better activities for down time and become a reliable and fare link for you the students on school policies.

Treasurer

Tara Collins
A Treasurer Worth Treasuring: Did you ever wonder what happened to all your hard earned money that you lost to taxes? Or why such high officials usually cruise in private jets, rolling in mounds of cash? Well, probably not, but whatever, my name is Tara Collins and I am here to take over your money woes so you can sleep well at night and rest assured that I won't be walking around in a mink coat when winter rolls around. I'll keep it simple, vote for me for treasurer, and I'll do all the brutal, hard labor.

Melissa Nezamzadeh
Hi, I am Melissa Nezamzadeh and I am running for treasurer for the Class of 2011. I was treasurer of my class in high school for 3 years. I would love to be treasurer because I really enjoy being involved in Student Assembly and I love handling money. Vote for Me!

Class Representatives

Joanna Edwards
Quick fact: The real world isn't easy. Someday we'll all have jobs and will actually have to work hard to get by. Don't rush it! Hamilton College provides everything you need to make life easy while nervously getting ready for that day when you pay your own phone bill. The people who make life here comfortable and easy are the Student Assembly. They work hard so you don't have to worry about things like meals, activities, and living arrangements. I want to help make your life easy. And as your student representative, that is what I'll do. Vote for Joanna.

Jeff Escalante
I became interested in leadership and politics during high school, and I think that being in student assembly would be something that I would really enjoy. I became interested in politics after taking a government course, and in leadership after founding and leading a Darfur Activism club for two years. I enjoyed the challenge of putting together events, organizing people, and especially the thrill of making things happen. I love getting involved with things, especially raising enthusiasm and publicity - I think it's a ton of fun. I hope I would represent the class well. This is exactly 100 words.

Edwin Gaston
My platform is to simply make sure that the voice of the freshman class is heard at the top of the student government pyramid. For those who know me and those who do not, I am hard-working person who rarely shies away from a challenge and is a loud, passionate speaker about issues that I feel can be resolved which is one of my strongest assets for the student government. I am someone who will actually follow the job description and represent you all and add an impassioned voice to your problems.

William Gowen
Hello Class of 2011. I am William Gowen and I am a prospective Class Representative. If elected, I hope to represent the class well, pushing for what you, the Class of 2011, want. I will serve the class to the best of my ability. I am sure it will be an awesome Freshman year. Vote for me, William Gowen. Thanks for your time.
P.S. I wear handlebar nutella mustaches from time to time, live off of funky beats and enjoy long walks on the beach.... 'Nuff said.

Megha Hoon
What makes a class representative? Sure, there are many responsibilities and criteria outlined in the Hamilton Constitution, but is that all there is to it? As far as I'm concerned, the answer is no. I believe that a class representative must be just that—representative of the class. I am a well-rounded person both academically and socially, and would therefore be able to represent a wide array of opinions and wishes. I am not afraid to voice any ideas, even controversial ones, which means that the administration will always know what we want. Let's make this year one to remember.

James "Jake" Lacy
Dear Class of 2011, I want to be your voice in the Student Assembly! I do not have a list of goals to present to you. I have no right to tell you what I want to do. I want YOU to tell me what WE should do to make Hamilton better. Those of you who have met me know that I am a good, compassionate, empathetic guy. Those of you who haven't met me, let's have lunch some time. As your Representative, I promise to be approachable, and open to your suggestions and ideas. Sincerely, James "Jake" R. Lacy

Julie Meurer
My name is Julie Meurer and I want to be one of your student assembly representatives. We have now joined the Hamilton community and together we can work to make it even better. From previous board and president positions, I have lots of new ideas and suggestions that I'm ready to bring to the Hill. From campus entertainment to making everyday run smoother I am ready to get to work for you. As the class of 2011, we have four amazing years ahead of us. Let me help make them memorable, by providing a voice on the student assembly.

Miguel Rosado
I would like to run for class representative because I want to be involved in the Hamilton community and make a positive influence on it. I feel that being a class representative would be a good way to do this. Many of my teachers and advisers have told me that I have the potential to be a good leader and I want to see if I am.

Ayush Soni
Class Representative. Why would I make a good one? To answer this question, we must explore the definition of a class representative. According to Wikipedia.com, class representative redirects to "lincho," a Japanese term meaning pushy bespectacled person who means well. I am not this, as my eyes are perfect. However, as everyone knows, Wikipedia is not completely reliable. According to my books, a good class representative is one who represents the class well and I promise to do so. Vote for Ayush Soni (me) if you want a competent, hard-working, and relatively kind person to represent you.

Caitlyn Williams
College is a catalyst for self-identity and new experiences. My unprecedented decision to run for Freshman Class Representative was inspired by the desire for endless possibilities. My job as Rep would solely be to promise my full attention to anyone willing to voice an opinion. I would work my absolute hardest to give everyone a chance to be heard and my own endless ideas could hopefully spark some changes around here. More than anything, I would provide the bridge towards change. I really hope to represent the freshman class and have an absolutely unbelievable year together while doing it.

Keith Willner
My name is Keith Willner and I want to be your Representative. Having served as President of Ilion High School's Student Council, I have the experience to help make sure your college life is awesome. I'm available to listen to your concerns and recommendations. Just tell me and I will do my best to address them. During my time as your representative I hope to help preserve the traditions that have made Hamilton great and create new traditions that we, the class of 2011, will be remembered for. Let's have a great year. I would appreciate your vote. Thank you.

Honor Court Representative

Joseph Buicko
My name is Joseph Buicko and I would like to be the freshman class Honor Court representative. To me, serving on the Honor Court is much more than just a position of leadership; it is a means to help uphold the integrity of the Hamilton community. When I first came to Hamilton on my overnight visit what amazed me about the college was the strong and respectful relationships that Hamilton students had with their fellow peers, teachers, staff, and themselves. If elected to Honor Court representative I would try to uphold this quality of living that was so appealing to me.

Eric Velez
My name is Eric Velez, and I'm running for the Honor Court. The role of the Honor court is to supervise the Honor system as well as to be a representative and a voice of the students in disciplinary matters. This person should be someone who understands the disciplinary system but at the same time understands that students are going to make mistakes. As a member of the disciplinary system in high school, I understand that students will make mistakes and am willing to give them the benefit of the doubt. Vote for Eric for Honor Court Representative.

Good Luck!

THE SPECTATOR

Home Field Advantage?

Ever since I was a kid, I have been a die-hard New York Giants fan. For three hours every Sunday I pour my heart out in front of the television, criticizing players and officials, even if they can not hear me. On the off chance I get to attend an actual game at Giants Stadium, my friends and I will lose our voices trying to pump our team up.

Therefore, my yelling and screaming has carried over to Hamilton sports. Last fall, a friend and I attended a women's soccer game, in which we dominated. During the game, the fans would yell out encouraging words to the players, whom we all know. Of course, the occasional "you suck #10" would slip out when the other team got a penalty. Although I was used to officials, usually on TV, ignoring my statements, a campus safety officer came over to my friends. "You can't say things like that to the other team, or I'll have to ask you to leave." Not only were we banned from yelling at the other team, but we were also told that we could not say the names of our *own* players. Really?

I understand that fans can sometimes get out of hand and yell inappropriate things to their opponents: It is part of the game. My point, however, is that campus police and officials are taking away from the game by regulating the fans. The idea of sports, or competition in general, is to win as many games as possible. For example, the '07 Hamilton women's lacrosse team went nearly undefeated last year, allowing them to host the Liberty League Championship (in which they won). Our teams strive for home field advantage because they want to feel at home when they play. If officials tell us we can't root for our team, what is the point of even attending the games? Of course, you could always scream, "Go team" over and over again until you get bored of your own voice. But if I'm two 40's deep and Kaillie Briscoe scores her fourth goal of the afternoon, I want to yell something meaningful.

Imagine if Boston fans were not able to root for the Red Sox as David Ortiz hits a homerun against the Yankees. It takes away from the game. Sports franchises exist in our culture because fans are willing to watch and enjoy their team play. Even though the organizations are comprised of players, it is ultimately the fans that keep the teams running. When fans are not able to cheer as they wish, attendance rates fall.

Sporting events at Hamilton already have poor attendance rates due to our small size. As regulations get more strict, less and less fans will want to be hassled by our officials. If we can't yell "you're slow #10!" or "state school!" to SUNY Geneseo, then what is the fun of being a fan in the first place? Hamilton students should not have to bite their tongues as their fellow students continue to dominate their opponents. Home field advantage should be an actual *advantage*, where fans can drunkenly root for their friends, curse their opponents, and enjoy the atmosphere.

by Jacob Murray '09
Assistant Editor

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Letters to the Editor Policy

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2. Letters should be no longer than 650 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
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INSIGHTS & IDEAS

Don't Judge the Candidates by their Websites

by Eric Kuhn '09
EDITOR-AT-LARGE

Starting this week, Editor-at-Large Eric Kuhn '09 will be taking a look at how presidential candidates are using "new media" (websites, blogs, social networking sites, etc.). This two-part series will continue next week.

'Tis the season for this question: "Who are you voting for in 2008?"

At a recent brunch with my grandmother and her friend (don't ask), her friend announced to me, "I love Obama." I asked, "Why? What are his issues?" She looked at me with a blank stare.

I guessed that this 86-year-old had yet to visit Barack Obama's website, so I decided to go on a quest to find out more about the current Illinois Senator and some of the other candidates.

Obama's home page is chock full of just about everything. It gives the impression that the campaign is on the move. Featured "above the fold" is the video of his recent appearance on *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart*, a now regular stop for 2008 candidates. "Below the fold" (you have to scroll) are the icons that have become regulars on a Web 2.0 presidential home page: "Facebook" and "MySpace" (become the candidate's "friend"), "YouTube" (watch his videos), "flickr" (check out his photos), and some other tabs such as "Obama Mobile" (sign up for text messages) and "Register to Vote."

No wonder why my grandparents, who can't even use a cell phone, would not go online for information about the candidates. BarackObama.com is for someone who grew up in a generation used to looking at complicated sites with the knowledge of how to navigate them.

But don't expect a visit to a candidate's web site to persuade minds, just like that.

"I think people are still much more influenced by traditional media coverage," said Ari Melber, a writer for *The Nation* magazine and campaign blogger. "Polling suggests that while people do not think the media is doing a great job, they consider it less biased than information from the campaigns, which makes sense," he told me via e-mail.

Melber said, "The most innovative part of candidate websites this cycle is that they are not simply aiming to shape media coverage or elite opinion – most aspire to compete with media coverage and be primary sources for the public. Examples include the constantly updated content on the official blogs, which tend to be much more lively than last cycle, or news aggregator pages like HillaryHub."

HillaryHub.com is all Hillary, all the time. It is a brilliant combination of national and local news, along with new and old media, with the look and feel of a mainstream blog. There are links to all the recent stories about the New York Senator, with outlets ranging from *USA Today* and the *Washington Post*, to the *Aiken Standard* (a South Carolina paper) and *Newsday* (a New York City paper), to MyDD and the Daily Kos posts and even to YouTube videos.

'Tis the season for this question: "Who are you voting for in 2008?"

What a great idea! Not because all the stories are on one page (other sites do that), but because of the way it looks and is laid out: traditional media in one column to the left, new media in the center, YouTube clips on the right, and a lead story taking the entire length of the page, on top. Very Huffington Post meets Drudge Report, making it seem like a blog not even related to HillaryClinton.com.

This is all part of Candidate 2.0. says Andrew Rasiej, co-founder of techPresident.com, a blog that keeps track of how presidential campaigns are using the Web and vice versa. "You are starting to approach more than a sound bite," he explained. "The campaigns are starting to learn that the Internet allows them to create their own private C-SPAN, where they can broadcast their message to their supporters."

Republican frontrunner Rudy Giuliani has displayed prominently on his home page the "Rudy Media Center," where you can listen to radio ads (a feature that other sites do not have on their home page). But the former New York Mayor's presidential home page lacks some California spunk by not having any links to become his friend on Facebook or MySpace front and center. However, after Rudy's daughter joined an Obama Facebook group, I bet they freaked out over those social networks.

Melber tells me "Some candidates are using their sites to amplify their supporter's voices, such as the My.BarackObama portal, which often hosts unmoderated comments and enables people to social network within their embryonic supporter community."

If you sign up, inside My.BarackObama one can blog, create groups, message people, fundraise and see his events. Also, prepare yourself to be Obama-spammed.

Rasiej says that when it comes to being a Web 2.0 candidate, there are two schools of thought. The first he called traditional "top down communication," where the campaign uses technology to deliver information. Rasiej calls it "direct mail for the 21st century." The campaigns using this technique are more interested in harnessing the Internet's fundraising potential and less in building a community.

But what the Obama camp is doing very successfully on the Web is encouraging what Rasiej calls "bottom up" or "side-to-side communication." This means helping voters engage with each other (if anything because the lessons from the past two election cycles show that more community equals more money raised). This is what My.BarackObama is all about, Rasiej explained: "Build your own blog and find like-minded supporters on his site."

Texas Rep. Ron Paul has also used the "community of online activists...who are building organizing tools and applications outside the campaign's own efforts." His long-shot campaign for the Republican candidacy has been fueled by a website touting social networking links and MeetUp events.

Rasiej added, "Unfortunately, most of the top-tier have been 'top down' and have only dipped their toe into the vast ocean of potential in using the Internet for political engagement."

Look in next week's Spectator *for the conclusion of Kuhn's analysis of the upcoming campaign and new media.*

Thumbs up

- Girls' soccer team from North Carolina drives 8 hours to get rained on and beaten 8-0 by Hamilton. Welcome to upstate New York, bitch.

- Hamilton instituting free laundry service by the end of September! No, that's a complete lie, but how happy were you just then?

- No funding for Capoeira: "Where are your sticks and pants from last year?"

- Clare Browne for freshman student body president: If Jesus had a rocket launcher and lived in a space ship made out of empty Colt 45 bottles, he'd be half as badass as Clare Browne.

Thumbs down

- Prude construction workers: It's okay to whistle boys, I don't wear these sexy cargo shorts for my health.

- Calling the Annex the "Tolles Pavilion" is a good way to get curb-stomped where I come from.

- Yelling "Nice Package!" to someone in the mail center: I laughed so hard I just punched you in the face!

- New mail center system: I can't check if I have a package online because every time I get an e-mail from the Scottish Country Dance club, I black out from rage.

Who Cares?

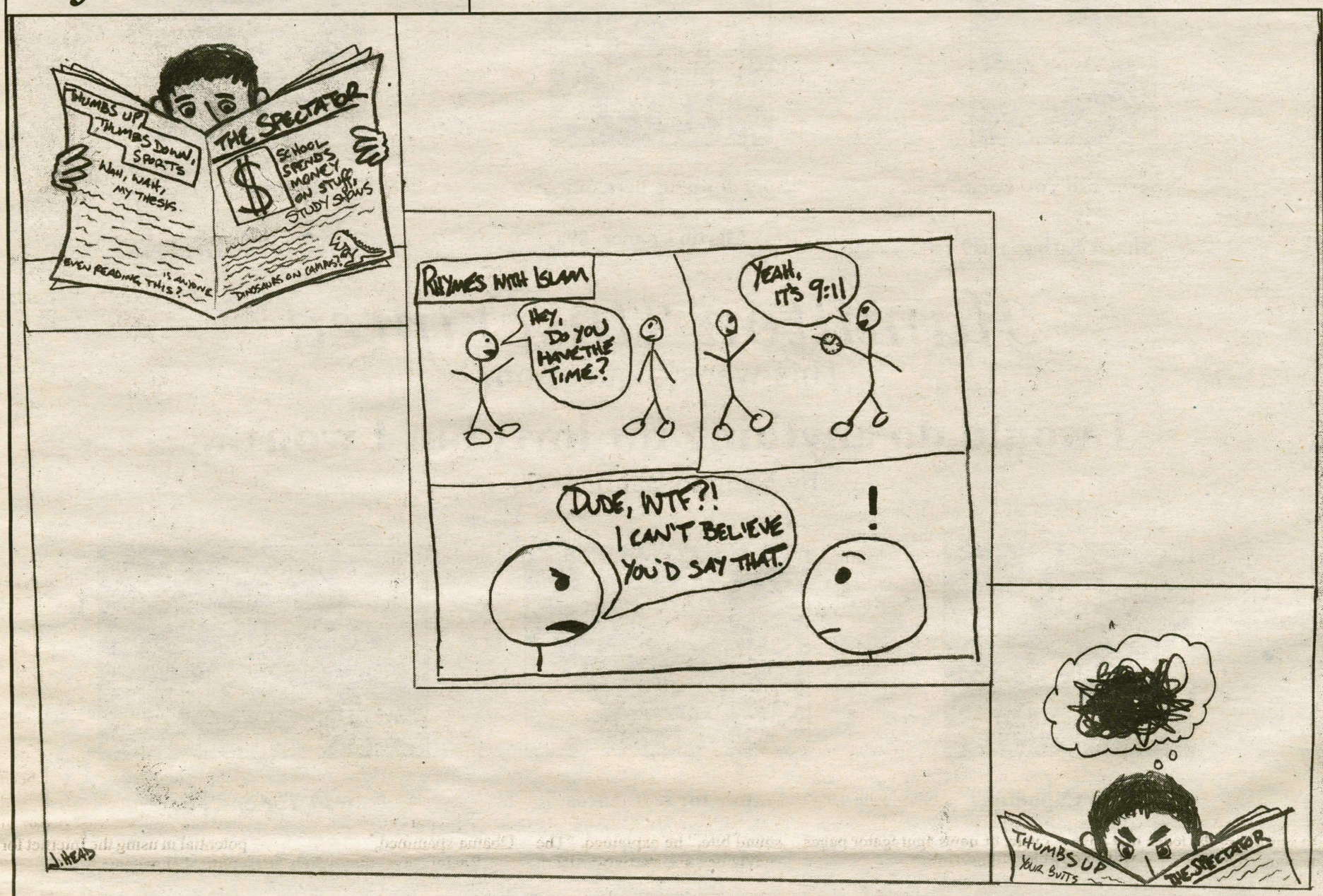
- "Come Watch Hamilton Ultimate Frisbee!" No thanks, I'll have killed myself long before I get depressed enough to do that.

- Prof. Kim ripping on the Spec in his 9 a.m. filosophy class. Thought we wouldn't find out, eh?

- Gym Class Heroes win best new artist at the VMA's: Bet they're wishing they didn't jump at that sweet Hamilton gig so fast.

by Stephen Allinger '09 & Sarah Cornblath '08

Rhymes with Islam



Overheard at Hamilton

Sophomore on Sunday morning: "No, I am not pregnant!"

Girl on Martin's Way, "I didn't put out…"

Dining Hall staff member: "I'm going to burn a message in your grass."

Sally Senior '08: "The Daily Bull wants to be me."

Compiled by Sally Senior '08.
Overhear any interesting quotes?
Email phodgens@hamilton.edu to get them in.

Have opinions?

Write for I & I and

share them.

email phodgens or spec.

"...ever call you back."

- Sharfi Farhana '09

"...put down my beer, officer."

- Martin Connor '09

"...pay child support."

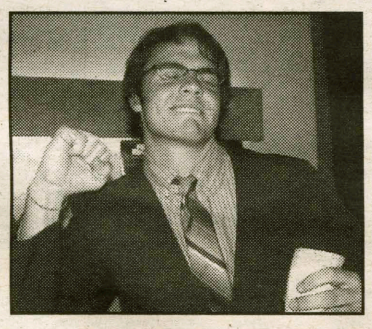
- Rebekah Mintzer '09

Hamilton Unscripted

This week's question:

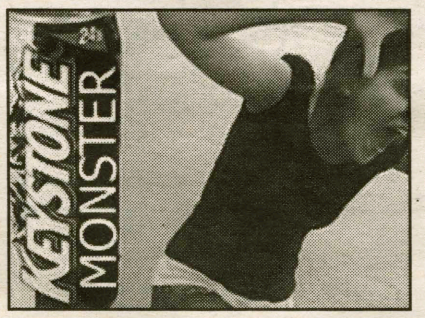
I would do anything for love, but I won't...

by Melissa Balding '09



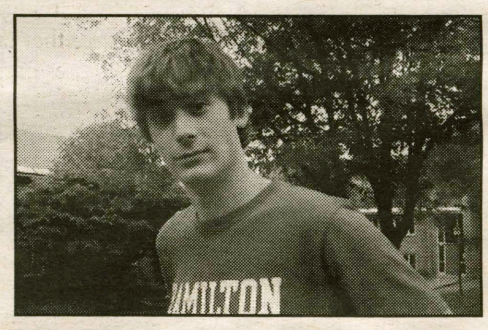
"...join Capoeira."

- Steve Allinger '09



"...pay for it in euros."

- Melissa Balding '09



"...read *The Spectator.*"

- Jacob Murray '09

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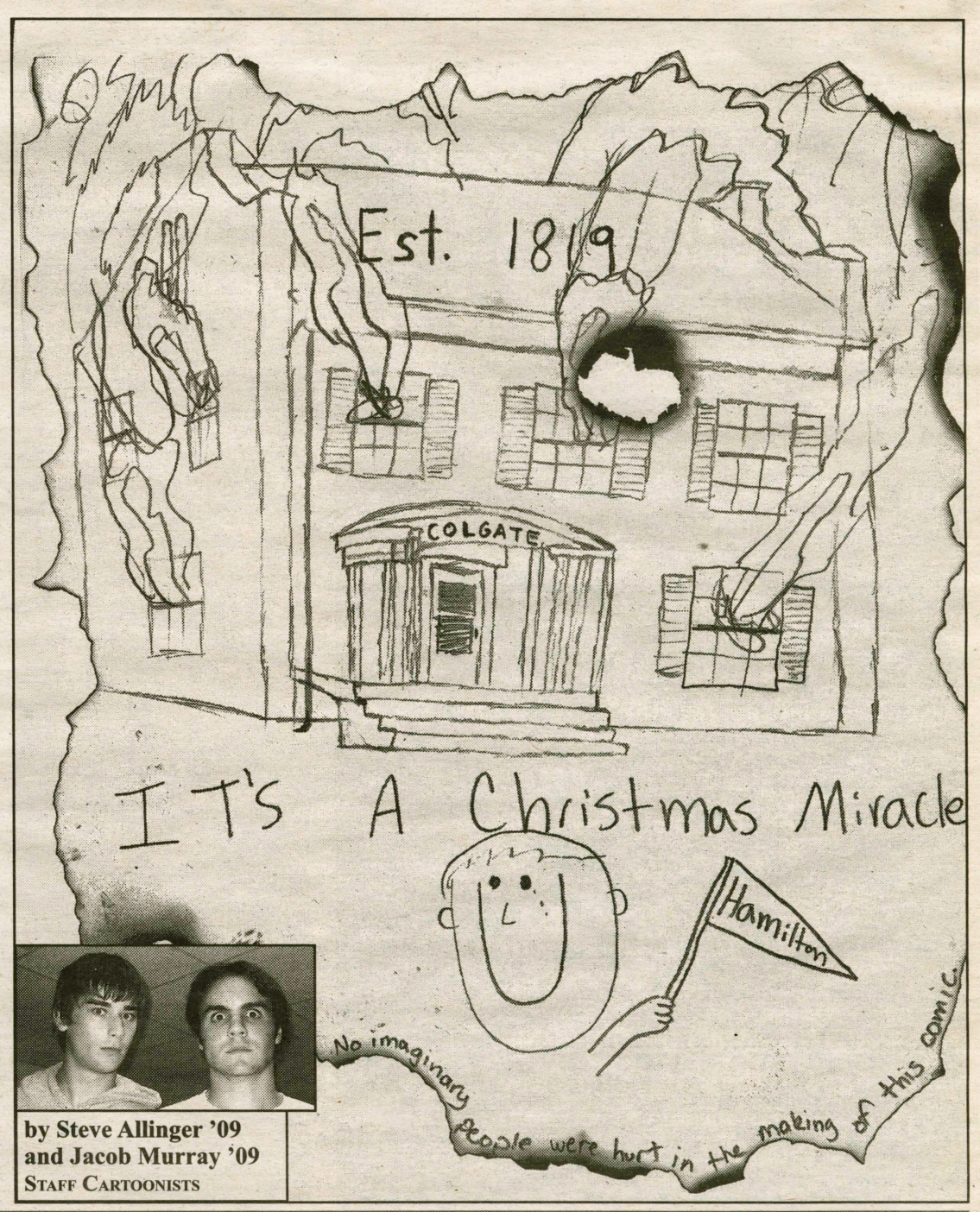


by Steve Allinger '09
and Jacob Murray '09
STAFF CARTOONISTS

From Where I Sit: *A White Girl in Indian-America*

by Alex Ossola '10
FEATURES WRITER

In my extremely diverse hometown outside of Washington, D.C., I never had any American friends. I always had friends from Taiwan or Europe; I even dated a guy from Australia. But mostly my best friends were from India. I fit in well with them at school and I went to their birthday parties where we ate Domino's pizza and watched many a John Cusack film.

These were typical American birthday parties, because although my friends' parents had immigrated, my friends themselves were born in the U.S. Even though I was frequently the only non-Indian at these parties, I didn't feel uncomfortable. When we were in middle school, there were no issues at all about cultural differences; we talked about visible epidermises (the eternal bad joke), saw our first PG-13 movies, and lamented each others' new braces or broken bones.

Then we got into high school, however, and some differences became more pronounced. My friends' parents became increasingly conservative about their daughters' interactions with guys. Several of my friends quietly admitted to me that their parents intended to arrange their marriages. It was strange to me, as I thought part of the "American Dream" (or just a part of modern societies) was to marry someone you love, not someone who is chosen for you. Some of my friends didn't seem to mind and agreed to follow the tradition without a fight. But the stigmatism about guys and having male friends continued to mystify me, especially as the only daughter in my family with two other male children. My best friend throughout much of high school warned me to not even *mention the existence* of a guy around her parents. After several faux pas that elicited awkward silences, I mastered the repertoire of excluding altogether any male names in the presence of my friends' elders.

Although when this was happening I never understood why parents were so insecure about their daughters' interaction with the opposite sex, I later learned that many Indian parents went to all-girl or all-boy schools and that too much communication with the opposite sex was seen as blasphemous and shameful. Girls shouldn't think about boys until they're older- old enough to marry, so think many of my friends' parents.

At 16, I began to get invitations to these Sweet Sixteen parties. They would say that the party started at eight, so that's when I would show up. But to my dismay, only the host family was already there and the caterers were still setting up. One of my friends had to explain to me about "Indian Standard Time," where you show up between an hour and two hours *after* the invitation says to be there. Talk about being fashionably late, and I was neither. These jokes stem from the leisurely and informal attitude many Indian people take when invited to a party or dinner at a friend's house; my friends' parents' attitude usually is, "if you invite them at seven, they'll be there at 8:30... but that's okay, we won't be ready until then anyway."

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEX OSSOLA '10

Alex is not an international student. She just enjoys learning about many different cultures from her diverse group of international friends.

Then, the buffet: all this scary-looking yet good-smelling Indian food set out for you to help yourself. I would walk down the line inquiring, "what's that? and that?" for every dish set out. I would frequently make good choices because all the food was amazing, if a little too spicy for me. I just happened to feel like an idiot, as everyone else heaped up their own portions of *naan* (bread) and *channa masala* (a spicy dish of chickpeas). After eating with one's hands by ripping the *naan* and pinching the other foods into it (another tradition to which I quickly adapted), the dancing began. There was always a mix of Indian music as well as contemporary hip-hop or pop, so I could dance to some of the songs. As for the Indian music, I slowly learned the North Indian bhangra technique of "screwing in the light bulb" with the upper hand and "petting the dog" with the other. I'm still not very good at it, but I can pass the dancing test, more or less. These festive traditions continued not only through the Sweet Sixteen parties, but through graduation parties as well, and I loved every event I attended.

My sporadic immersion into Indian-American culture has taught me a lot about my friends and their slight identity crisis in being both Indian and American and how much the two cultures fundamentally contradict one another. And, of course, I learned about what I expect as an American and began to question old adages I had always taken for granted. Knowing my Indian-American friends has deeply changed who I am, but I wish I could say it made me appreciate my Americanism more. There are some things I will always assume hold true for everyone and no lack of eating utensils, paranoia of the opposite sex, or arranged marriages can change that.

"From Where I Sit" is the ESOL column that presents the nonnative English speaker's point of view on his or her American college experience. If you have a "From Where I Sit" story that you would like to share, please email adragan.

Lotions and Potions: Beauty by the Dormitory

by Elizabeth Kosar '10
FEATURES COLUMNIST

Even if you're a freshman, you've probably already figured out that there is a Hamilton look. It's a little bit preppy, a little bit granola but there's definitely a distinct image. So here a question: What beauty image does Hamilton have?

Better yet, *if the dorms on campus were Hamilton students, what would their stereotypical beauty look be?*

DUNHAM

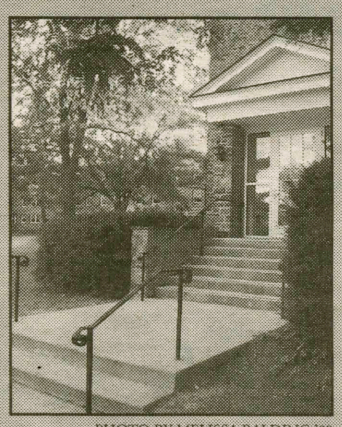
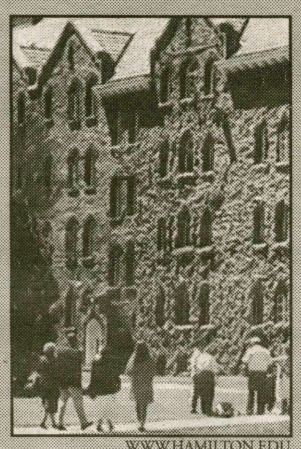


PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING '09

This is a freshman girl who is just learning to hold her liquor. She also still goes to class regularly, so she needs to appear alert and vibrant. This is the time for an amazing undereye concealer. Benefit Boi-ing seriously works. The lemony shade diffuses the darkness so that your professor doesn't know that you were playing Beirut until 2:00.

CARNEGIE



WWW.HAMILTON.EDU

She's a classy senior who's learned restraint. She finally appreciates that black smoky eyes are not appropriate for a Monday 9:00 class (and neither are stiletto heels). She's all about an awesome blush like Tarte cheek stain which gets her out the door and on her way to her Anthro class.

BUNDY

WWW.HAMILTON.EDU

Oh, sophomore year. No longer with the confusion of freshman year, but without the pressure of senior year (I have to get a job?!? Feed myself?!?!) the Bundy lady is all about the party. In fact she is the party. For her we'd suggest a sassy red lip gloss such as L'Oreal Colour Juice in Raspberry Smash.

PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING '09

MAJOR

Very cool. She's got a guitar, a tattoo and imported music. She speaks four languages and reads books that aren't assigned. Wouldn't be caught dead watching *The Hills*. Rimmel Exaggerate Eye Liner in Noir is a staple of her vintage makeup bag (but she's sophisticated enough to make it subtle, not sleazy.

BABBITT

PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING '09

Adirondack Adventure Leader. English Major. Wears Crocs and drinks from a Nalgene covered in stickers. Her beauty habits are minimal but effective. She'd love a scented body wash like The Body Shop Satsuma Gel which smells awesome but wouldn't make her seem flaky.

Want to help out a great cause?

Barbara Britt-Hysell, Hamilton College ESOL Coordinator, will be participating in the Avon-Breast Cancer Walk in NYC and is accepting donations. Email bbritthy@hamilton.edu.

Construction Survival

by Emily Gerston '11
Features Writer

It's impossible not to have noticed the construction going on at Kirner-Johnson. Either by grabbing lunch at McEwen, watching The Buffers crack jokes about it at the back-to-school performance, or being woken up by an orchestra of construction noises, there's no avoiding it. Here are a few tips to get through the next two years of construction without completely losing your mind.

1. Invest in a pair of earplugs. Really, really hardcore earplugs. Even if they don't completely silence construction noise, at least they'll help minimize the noise coming out of the List music practice rooms on Saturday mornings.

2. Use the construction as an alarm clock. Hear a truck driving by? Time to get up! Hear a jackhammer rattling? Crap, you're late to your 9 a.m. class!

3. Try to look at the upside, the more noise, the fewer people going to McEwen. And you know what that means… shorter stir fry lines!

4. Make music out of the noise. When lying in bed trying to ignore the noise, even your new earplugs can't keep all of it out. But if you can't get rid of it, why not embrace it? The trucks can be the bass, the cranes the guitar, the jackhammers the drums. If you lay there long enough (and/or haven't slept for more than six hours in two days), it comes together quite nicely.

5. Make use of the newly-installed metal fence outlining the construction outside Opus 1 and McEwen. Could there be a more perfect place to lock your bike while you wait in the shorter line for your stir fry?

6. Try to look at the upside (again), even though it's a low blow, it's pretty funny to hear The Buffers making jokes about the Dark Side getting raped by construction.

7. Take up a new hobby: squirrel watching. Walk up Martin's Way toward McEwen to where the path is fenced in on both sides, and watch the squirrels bounce off the fence as they try to run away from you. Never gets old.

8. Hibernate for a couple of years. Pass through the years of KJ construction blissfully unaware, sleeping through every last noise and water outage to the Dark Side. And with a little luck, when you wake up they'll be doing construction on the Light Side instead.

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Rebekah "the Dungeon mistress" Mintzer (rmintzer)

Smart Shopping: How would you spend $300?

by Fenglin Zhao '10
Fashion Columnist

I recently celebrated my second birthday at Hamilton. On the eve of my big day, I called home so that my parents could wish me happy birthday. "Spend some money on yourself, buy something nice!" my mother told me. I put down the phone and indulged my mind in a little fantasy shopping: As a minimum wage earner, how should I spend my 300 dollars to make it worthwhile? Here are some of my options:

1. Dotted Tote (Miss Tate Style)

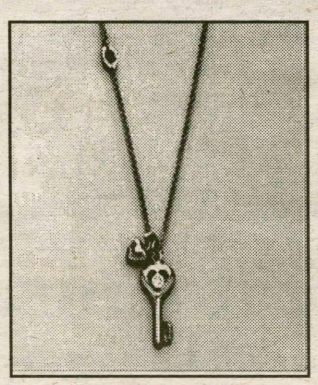
I am in love with Jacobs! "Marc Jacobs is Fashion's lonely, awkward outsider," says *New York Magazine*. His sense of style is so unusual that he once compared it to an "offbeat" musician whose album will never be played in the background.

With his edgy, exaggerated, puffy sleeves, bright colors and oversized patterns, Jacobs constantly brings surprises to the fashion world. If I were to choose between Jacobs and Longchamp Pliage, I would definitely go for Jacobs.

Link: http://www.neimanmarcus.com
Price: $178

2. Juicy Couture, "Key to My Heart" Necklace

Bring the couture back! Yes, we all have a piece of Tiffany silver collection in our jewelry box, but sometimes it's fun to break your routine and experiment with your imagination! Be a fashion chameleon!



Link: http://www.saksfifthavenue.com

Price: $48

3. Kate Spade Chissy Wallet

If you have ever gone to a dance party and juggled between keeping your cellphone, camera, keys and meal card in place and holding on to your cute dance partner, this is what you need.

Link: http://www.neimanmarcus.com

Price: $86 (on sale)

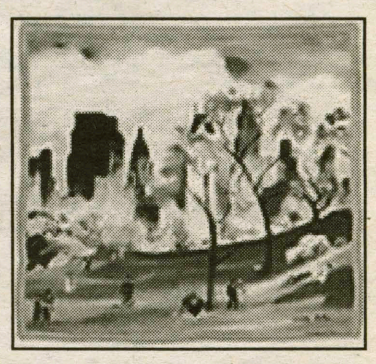
4. Calvin Klein 'Medium' Belted Leather Shopper

I like it when fashion is functional. I like Calvin Klein when it's always here to stay. Black, spacious, elegant and low key-- I won't have to worry about putting this bag away for a least another ten years to come.

Link: http://shop.nordstrom.com
Price: $178

5. Spring in Central Park Scarf (Metropolitan Museum store)

Do you like Kate Holmes' Park Avenue style in "First Daughter"? Do you know how her outfits could have gone from gorgeous to more gorgeous? The answer is a squarish scarf. A reproduction form American artist Adolf Dehn's 1941 painting, Spring in Central Park adds a delightful element to your fall look. Thanks to my dear friend Xin who told me that when Hermes scarves are unaffordable, one should definitely go for Met scarves.



Price : $55 (non-member price)

Link: http://www.metmuseum.org/

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DRAGON WARS

●1:00●3:00-5:00-7:00▲9:00 PG-13

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3:10 TO YUMA #1 MOVIE!

●2:00-4:35-7:10▲9:35 DTS R

HALLOWEEN

●2:15-4:45-7:30▲9:50 DTS R

BALLS OF FURY

●1:15●3:10-5:15-7:15▲9:10 PG-13

SUPERBAD

●2:25-4:50-7:20▲9:40 DTS R

HAIRSPRAY ●1:55-4:25-6:50▲9:15 PG

THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM

7:05▲9:25 MATT DAMON PG-13

MR. BEAN'S HOLIDAY ●1:20●3:15-5:10 G

UNDERDOG ●2:05●4:00-6:00 PG

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Celery and Blue Cheese: $1.25

*Dinners:

Stuffed Shells..... $6.50

Manicotti..... $6.50

Eggplant Parm..... $7.95

Lasagna..... $7.95

**All dinners served w/ a side salad and garlic bread

*Antipasto:

Small..... $4.25

Large..... $5.75

*Garden Salad:

Small..... $2.00

Large..... $3.75

*Subs:

Cold~

Small..... $4.50

Large..... $5.95

*Roast Turkey, Baked Ham, Roast Beef, Salami, Tuna Salad

Hot~

Small..... $4.75

Large..... $6.25

*Chicken Club, Chicken Parm, Meatball, Sausage, Steak

*Fish:

Fresh Haddock Fish Fry ... $7.95

Every Friday 5pm Until We Sell Out

*Appetizers:

Chicken Tenders..... $5.95

Mozzarella Sticks..... $4.95

French Fries..... $2.25

Garlic Bread..... $1.50

Fried Dough..... $2.25

*Specials:

Small Pizza & 20 Wings $13.95

Large Pizza & 20 Wings $18.50

Large Pizza & 50 Wings $23.00

Super Pie & 50 Wings $32.95

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Weekly Charts

by Nicole T. Dietsche '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

MUSIC
(From iTunes)

Top Albums
1. Graduation - Kanye West
2. Coco - Colbie Caillat
3. High School Musical 2 - Soundtrack
4. Graduation (Deluse Edition) - Kanye West
5. Grey's Anatomy, Vol. 3 - Various Artists

Top Songs
1. Stronger - Kanye West
2. Crank That - Soulja Boy Tell 'Em
3. Bubbly - Colbie Caillat
4. The Way I Are - Timbaland
5. Ayo Technology - 50 Cent

MOVIES
(Yahoo! Box Office Charts)
1. 3:10 to Yuma
2. Halloween
3. Superbad
4. Shoot 'Em Up
5. The Bourne Ultimatum
6. Balls of Fury
7. Rush Hour 3
8. The Nanny Diaries
9. Stardust
10. Hairspray

BOOKS
(From The New York Times Best Seller List)

Paperback Fiction
1. 74 SEASIDE AVENUE, by Debbie Macomber
2. WATER FOR ELEPHANTS, by Sara Gruen
3. THE COLLECTORS, by David Baldacci
4. KILLER DREAMS, by Iris Johansen
5. THE KITE RUNNER, by Khaled Hosseini

Paperback Non-Fiction
1. EAT, PRAY, LOVE, by Elizabeth Gilbert
2. 90 MINUTES IN HEAVEN, by Don Piper with Cecil Murphey
3. THE GLASS CASTLE, by Jeannette Walls
4. THE WORLD IS FLAT, by Thomas L. Friedman
5. THE OMNIVORE'S DILEMMA, by Michael Pollan

Amazing Acts of Genre-Defying Definitions!

by Ashley Stagner '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The Arts and Entertainment section strives to provide information about areas of entertainment that may be outside of common knowledge. Admittedly, the section focuses primarily on music because of the rapid number of new and old bands releasing albums, and the section discusses rock music far more often than rap, R&B, and country because, frankly, of personal preference.

Lately bands have had trouble defining the exact genre of their music, and they are forced to come up with labels such as: "emo/power-pop/folk." Now, this label is sure to be helpful to them, but not to music listeners if they have no idea what that combination means.

So, pay attention to some basic definitions provided by Wikipedia. There may be a quiz later.

Rock: "A form of popular music with a prominent vocal melody accompanied by guitar, drums, and bass. Many styles of rock music also use keyboard instruments such as organ, piano, or synthesizers. Rock music usually has a strong back beat, and often revolves around guitar, either electric or acoustic."

Examples: The Beatles, Elvis Presley and Buddy Holly

Punk: "An anti-establishment rock music genre and movement that emerged in the mid-1970s. Preceded by a variety of protopunk music of the 1960s and early 1970s, punk rock developed between 1974 and 1977 in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia… [they] created short, fast, hard music, with stripped-down instrumentation and often political or nihilistic lyrics. The associated punk subculture expresses youthful rebellion, distinctive clothing styles, a variety of anti-authoritarian ideologies, and a DIY (do it yourself) attitude."

Examples: The Ramones, Sex Pistols and The Clash

Emo: "In its original incarnation, the term *emo* was used to describe a subgenre of hardcore punk which originated in the Washington, DC music scene of the mid-1980s. The term *emo* was derived from the fact that, on occasion, members of a band would become spontaneously and strongly emotional during performances. The first wave of emo began to fade after the breakups of most of the involved bands in the early 1990s.

"Starting in the mid-1990s, the term *emo* began to reflect the indie scene that followed the influences of Fugazi, which itself was an offshoot of the first wave of emo… more melodic and less chaotic in nature than its predecessor. The so-called 'indie emo' scene survived until the late 1990s, as many of the bands either disbanded or shifted to mainstream styles.

"Whereas, even in the past, the term *emo* was used to identify a wide variety of bands, the breadth of bands listed under today's emo is even more vast, leaving the term "emo" as more of a loose identifier than as a specific genre of music.

Examples: Rites of Spring, One Last Wish, Sunny Day Real Estate and Texas Is the Reason

Heavy metal: "A genre of rock music that developed in the late 1960s and early 1970s. With roots in blues-rock and psychedelic rock, the bands that created heavy metal developed a thick, heavy, guitar-and-drums-centered sound, characterized by highly amplified distortion and fast guitar solos. The *All Music Guide* states that 'of all rock & roll's myriad forms, heavy metal is the most extreme in terms of volume, machismo, and theatricality.'"

Examples: Led Zeppelin, Black Sabbath and Deep Purple

Folk: "In its earliest and narrowest sense, the term referred to a genre that arose in the United States and Canada around the mid-1960s. The sound was epitomized by tight vocal harmonies and a relatively 'clean' (effects- and distortion-free) approach to electric instruments epitomized by the jangly sound of the Byrds' guitarist Roger McGuinn."

Examples: Bob Dylan, Joni Mitchell and Simon & Garfunkel

Indie (Independent): "In recent years the word 'indie' has been appropriated as something of a marketing term used by major labels and music magazines to refer to any artists of the alternative rock genre. However, in the traditional sense of the word, indie rock is not a "genre", but rather a *status*, indicating the rock artists of independent music."

Examples: !!!, The Strokes, Interpol, and Nightmare of You

Ska: "A music genre that originated in Jamaica in the late 1950s and was a precursor to rocksteady and reggae. It combines elements of Caribbean mento and calypso with American jazz and rhythm and blues. It is characterized by a walking bass line, accented guitar, or piano rhythms on the offbeat, and in some cases, jazz-like horn riffs."

Examples: The Toasters, Hepcat and The Slackers

Experimental: "Any music that challenges the commonly accepted notions of what music is. There is an overlap with avant-garde music. David Cope describes experimental music as that 'which represents a refusal to accept the status quo' (Cope, 1997, p. 222). …there is little agreement as to the boundaries of experimental music, even amongst its practitioners. On the one hand, some experimental music is an extension of traditional music, adding unconventional instruments, modifications to instruments, noises, and other novelties to compositions. At the other extreme, there are performances that most listeners would not characterize as music at all."

Examples: La Monte Young and Yoko Ono

Pop: "Does not refer specifically to a single genre or sound, and its meaning is different depending on the time and place. Within popular music, 'pop music' is often distinguished from other subgenres by stylistic traits such as a danceable rhythm or beat, simple melodies and a repeating structure. Pop song lyrics are often emotional, commonly relating to love, loss, emotion, or dancing."

Examples: Spice Girls, Hilary Duff and The Pussycat Dolls

New wave: "Originally, Seymour Stein, the head of Sire Records, needed a term by which he could market his newly signed bands, who had frequently played the club CBGB. Because radio consultants in the U.S. had advised their clients that punk rock was a fad (and because many stations that had embraced disco had been hurt by the backlash), Stein settled on the term "new wave". He felt that the music was the musical equivalent of the French New Wave film movement of the 1960s. Like those film makers, his new artists were anti-corporate, experimental, and a generation that had grown up as critical consumers of the art they now practiced… [they created] music that tended toward experimentation, lyrical complexity, or more polished production."

Examples: Blondie, Elvis Costello and The Cure

Techno: "Techno features a largely percussive feel, like the synthetic sounds, studio effects used as principal instrumentation, and usually a regular 4/4 beat with a tempo of 130–140bpm, sometimes faster, but rarely slower. Some techno compositions have strong melodies and bass lines, but these features are not as essential to techno as they are to other styles of electronic dance music, and it is not uncommon for techno compositions to deemphasize or omit them. 'Techno' is commonly confused with general terms such as electronic music and dance music."

Examples: Moby, The Crystal Method and Orbital

Alternative: "Coined in the 1980s to describe punk rock-inspired bands on independent record labels that did not fit into the mainstream genres of the time. As a musical genre, alternative rock consists of various subgenres that have emerged from the independent music scene since the 1980s, such as grunge, Britpop, gothic rock, and indie pop. These genres are unified by their collective debt to the style and/or ethos of punk."

Examples: R.E.M., Violent Femmes and Sonic Youth

An Austenite's Plea

by Laura DeFrank '10
Arts & Entertainment Writer

"Bride and Prejudice." " Bridget Jones's Diary." "Bridget Jones's Diary: The Edge of Reason." "Pride and Prejudice"–with Keira Knightley. In the past ten years, the US has been overwhelmed with adaptations of what many consider to be Jane Austen's finest love story. For all the die-hard fans of Jane – including me, I must admit, who bought tickets in advance to see the lovely and spunky Keira Knightley portray our beloved Lizzie, I can almost guarantee there were just as many who have never cracked the binding of *Pride and Prejudice*.

Why? Why would someone, when she (or perhaps even he!) could mosey on down to the library and peruse the elegant prose and biting satire of early-nineteenth-century England crafted by a strong and intelligent woman, pay $8 or $9 for two hours of Hollywood's portrayal? My harsh opinion is that she (or he) is a poseur. My more giving and perhaps more realistic opinion is that, for many, Austen's books are just not as gratifying as the cinematic depiction. There is no Matthew Macfadyen or lush cinematography in the book. There are clever jabs and witty dialogue about blunders in propriety, but no deliciously hazy scene where Darcy tells Elizabeth that she has "bewitched [him] body and soul."

I do not mean to turn the general public from these adaptations. I do not even mean to guilt people into reading a book that they may not enjoy. My point is simply this: although Jane Austen's books do not hold the same visual gratification as the adaptations, she had a lyrical command of narrative that the movies just do not capture.

If after all this I have converted anyone, I will make this one suggestion – pick up *Persuasion*. Anne Elliot may not be as vocal or sprightly as Elizabeth Bennett but there is a sweetness to her, a genuine introverted delicacy, that made me root for her perhaps even more than for Lizzie, who I knew could take care of herself. And as for Frederick Wentworth? He is simultaneously more detestable and more amiable than Darcy could ever hope to be. But maybe I'm just Prejudiced.

Entertaining Things from the World of Entertainment

by Nicole T. Dietsche '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Britney's comeback: it came and left without her. Unfortunately, the baby weight didn't follow suit.

In what was probably a huge drunken "oops," freshly-turned-21 year old actor Shia LaBeouf let slip that the fourth Indiana Jones movie will be called "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull." No reports yet if Steven Spielburg will be using LaBeouf's skull yet.

Former N*Sync-er J.C. Chasez leaves Jive Records.... Wait, wait, wait. He was DOING something? Meanwhile, J. Tims is winning awards for his penis...

"Live with Regis and Kelly" celebrates its 20th anniversary. Viewers everywhere wonder why they put up with Kelly Ripa's annoying voice for six of those years.

Jake Gyllenhaal desperately plugs his new movie, "Rendition", but movie-goers wonder if it will be a "Brokeback" sequel or if their nine dollars is better spent on a late night Pay-Per-View special.

Heroes star Hayden Panettiere releases her first single in an attempt to be the next big tv-music star. Isn't saving the world enough for people these days?

My Chemical Romance's front-man Gerard Way reportedly married Mindless Self Indulgence's bassist Lyn-Z last week. It wouldn't be so bad if the ordained minister who supposedly married them didn't look like she was deranged.

Rehab clinics in California today reported a shortage of drugged-out-of-their-minds celebrities. They ask anyone who hasn't cashed in their fifteen minutes of fame yet to please do so... they need to pay their electrical bills.

New fall television programming will start next week. Time travelling and vampires appear to be "in" this year, but everyone's still trying to figure out how Dr. House will manage without his super-cool sidekicks and if *Grey's* is totally going to suck now that Addison has her own show and McDreamy has become McJerk-y.

Legendary Pictues got the rights to make the movie "Kung Fu" based off the 1970s tv show. I hope they plan on keeping that amazingly original name...

The Idiot Box 101

Television Review: Season One of Heroes

by Rachel Frazier '09
Arts & Entertainment Columnist

I came to *Heroes* halfway through the first season, laid up in bed with the flu and a potent internet connection. I was hooked. I watched, engrossed, as the bad guy tricked the good guy, morally ambiguous characters (which was almost of them) switched sides, and the show grew towards a climax that promised to be monumental. Here was a show that took superheroes and stripped away all that was "super" about them. There is no spandex suit, no arch-enemy, no silly name, secret identity or mountain lair. All that remains are ordinary people with special powers, and the question of what they will do next.

Heroes is an ensemble show—no main character or plotline—so it can at times get a bit confusing. We are expected to keep track of thirteen main characters (yes, I had to stop and count), all of which have their own storyline that interweaves with the rest. *Heroes* is not a show for the faint of heart or the short of memory. That having been said, of course, I do have to point something out: *Heroes* is not *Lost*. Instead of just piling questions upon storylines and leaving the audience to sit in a puddle of their own confusion, Heroes actually answers questions, and within a reasonable timeframe, too. The plots tend to resolve within 5 to 10 episodes, leaving the audience happy and fulfilled, pitying the poor fool whose show is not so kind.

Despite the numerous plots and subplots, however, there are three that really stand out in season one as the most consistently awesome: The Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day; The Odd Couple; and Secret Agent Man.

WWW.HEROESTHESERIES.COM

Are you hooked yet? *Heroes* season two starts September 24 on NBC.

The Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day: Peter Petrelli

It's not really a day. Peter Petrelli's bad day lasts for about six months (so far), and it just keeps getting worse. If *Heroes* did have a main character, it would be Peter, if only for his wounded puppy dog look and the way his story arc intersects with everyone else's. His power is empathy, which means he can absorb anyone else's power. That can be either really useful (yay, Peter's not dead!) or very, very bad (oh no, Peter's going to turn into a nuclear bomb and blow up New York City!). Poor Peter just can't catch a break. From the moment he jumps off a building in that first episode (I kid you not), the plot just takes off and carries him through a never-ending gamut of cheerleaders that need saving, abusive British mentors, psychotic arch-enemies, and an impressively dysfunctional family. We can hope that Peter's very bad day might be over, but it seems that the more emo he becomes, the higher the ratings go, so expect more agony than ecstasy in season two.

The Odd Couple: Sylar and Mohinder

It's like a match made in a reality show boardroom: stick a mild-mannered Indian geneticist (Mohinder) on a road-trip with the psychopathic watchmaker who murdered his father (Sylar), don't tell him who the killer really is, and stir in some weird sexual tension. What's not to love? It's not the sheer schadenfreude of watching their personalities clash, however, that is so compelling about our odd couple. Rather, it's the way we watch these two men slowly become friends in spite of themselves. You can practically taste the betrayal on both sides when the truth comes out. But the most powerful part of their story is when Sylar, even after the truth is revealed, still considers Mohinder the only person he can call when he needs help.

Secret Agent Man: Claire and Mr. Bennet

Can you imagine finding out that the father you've adored for years is actually a secret agent for an evil company that tortures people like you? On top of that, you somehow are indestructible, which would be pretty cool if not for the "ick" factor, and the fear that your dad might turn you in. Such is the life and teenage angst of Claire Bennet. Imagine working at a company for years and then discovering your loyalties suddenly torn between the job you've devoted yourself to and the daughter you love. Such is the life of Mr. Bennet, secret agent man. Claire loves her dad, but she just can't figure out whether to trust him or not. It's the dynamic of real family love, a genuine father-daughter relationship on the screen that really makes me squee.

I suppose, when it comes down to it, *Heroes* works because it eschews the silly idea that people are either good or bad. Rather, everyone is a different shade of grey, some are just a darker charcoal than others. It's the real-life situations, though, that the characters get into—situations that Superman never has to deal with—that give the show a true depth. The show deals with rape (Claire), addiction (Isaac), a lovingly dysfunctional family (the Petrellis), bankruptcy (Niki), and betrayal (everyone), to name only a few issues. Superheroes don't have problems like these (except when a writer reinvents them to appeal to a newer audience), but these heroes do, because, foremost, they are people.

Heroes Season One is out on DVD. It returns to NBC for Season Two on September 24 at 9 p.m., at which point there shall be joy throughout the land.

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"Doctuh" Woods presents: The Tower School of Business

by Brendan Conway '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

"Something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue." Those were the words that "Doctuh" Michael Woods used to define his most recent concert, called "The Tower School of Business." Doc Woods wanted to blend songs from the past and the present, from other artists and from himself, all tinged with a hint of blue, to create a concert full of dignity and great music. To say that he succeeded is to understate his accomplishment. The concert was an hour and a half of magnificent music, from both artistic and enjoyment perspectives. Between instrumental funk pieces like "The Root Cause," spectacular vocal pieces like "Lord Lift Us Up," and the fascinatingly quiet piece "The Balance of Our Time," the concert kept slamming home great song after great song.

Afterwards, Doc said that he'd wanted to have this concert because he was tired of rappers cursing and half-naked women dancing; with regards to them, he said "Just because it's common, doesn't mean it's good."

Doc wanted to show that the black community wasn't represented by those elements, but by both the musicians who were playing their hearts out and the audience members who'd come, fully dressed up, to sway with the music. He wanted to display the dignity and decency of the black community with his concert, a dignity and decency also exemplified in some of his favorite musicians, like Joshua Redmond and Winton Marsalis.

I think that as anybody there would attest, Doc did all that he intended, and more.

Visit www.idiotbox_101.livejournal.com to read more reviews.

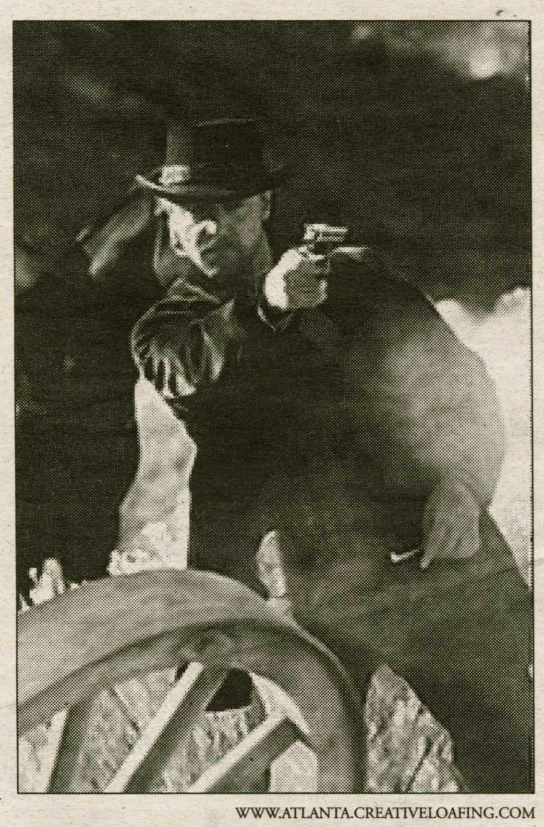
Correction to last week's article, "*Shakespeare's The Tempest Comes to The Hill This Weekend*": Untitled @ Large's production of The Tempest was co-directed by Randi Rivera '08 and Ali Fisher '08.

Movie Review of 3:10 to Yuma

by Rebecca Griffin '09
Arts & Entertainment

The classic Western film is revived with a new twist as Christian Bale and Russell Crowe battle in out in "3:10 to Yuma," a film that utilizes the classic white hat, black hat showdown that made Westerns famous. The twist with "3:10 to Yuma," a remake of the 1957 movie of the same name, is that the audience is left questioning if they should root for the good or the bad guys in the final confrontation.

Directed by James Mangold, "3:10 to Yuma" tells the story of outlaw Ben Wade (Crowe), the mastermind behind 20 major robberies on the Southern Pacific Railroad in nineteenth-century Arizona. After one particular attack, Wade is confronted by Dan Evans (Bale), a rancher and Civil War veteran whose cattle were used by Wade as a diversion in the attack. Wade, who faces the loss of his ranch due to its location in the path of a planned railroad, is struggling to provide for his family during a prolonged drought. Evans agrees to be a member of a team sanctioned to move and guard Wade onto a prison train (the 3:10 to Yuma) in exchange for $200.



WWW.ATLANTA.CREATIVELOAFING.COM

Russell Crowe stars in *3:10 to Yuma*.

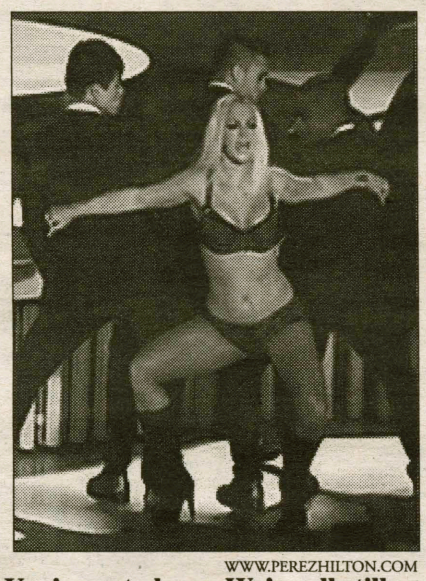
Unfortunately for Evans, Wade's team of thieves lies waiting ready to spring free their boss from his captors. What ensues is an absorbing morality play that combines typical western violence and showdowns with a psychological look into the philosophies of life. Quick-moving and engaging, the movie will be liked by Western and action lovers alike. The film boasts excellent cinematography as well as stellar performances from its two male leads. *3:10 to Yuma* is rated R and in theaters now.

Oops, She Did It Again

by Jennifer Vano '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

MTV Networks must be commended for strategically booking Britney Spears as the opener of last Sunday's VMAs. My guess is that the 23 percent increase in viewership from last year (which means 7.1 million people tuned in) is due largely to the fact that people wanted to see what was going to happen with the once pop princess. Perhaps, like me, people were rooting for her—perhaps Spears' past knock-your-socks-off VMA performances teased their memories, her undeniable ability to put on an amazing show offered a glimmer of hope that though her hair might be gone, her career isn't.

The show opens abruptly to a Britney clad in black sequins and leather stilettos. Ok, so no six-pack, but she doesn't look half bad after two kids and several drug, uh, issues, and I think, maybe, just maybe, she'll nail it. I am almost too distracted by the poor camera work (which focuses maybe not unintentionally on Britney's badly woven weave) to notice that a faint "It's Britney, B*tch" cues up the track, dozens of back-up dancers and Miss Spears herself. Well, it probably is supposed to, but Britney neither musters any energy nor moves her mouth in any attempt to keep up with the backing track. Her first step—her ankle buckles—and I'm legitimately afraid that she's going down. Ten seconds pass, 20 seconds, 30—it seems like an eternity, like torture for both me and Britney. She wanders around the stage seemingly confused, indifferent—like a hung-over college student who has just enough energy to mumble, "Where the hell am I?" She's asleep, I think, and I'm about to nod off myself if I can just get my jaw to close.



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You're not alone. We're all still cringing from the "performance."

There is, of course, a certain pathos involved here—what could have been a prove-'em-all-wrong comeback extravaganza immediately turns into an everybody-gave-me-more-credit-than-I-deserved debacle.

Sadly, the song is not half-bad; it is definitely catchy, and has been received amazingly well by popular radio and its listeners. More, her new album, set to be released November 12, is projected to sell a fair number of copies—nowhere near her previous releases, but not a total bomb, either. And, too, I think we could have looked past the lip-synching if Britney could have just danced in the spirit of "I'm a Slave For You" a few years back.

But her 2007 VMA performance looked like a rehearsal—a very, very early rehearsal, and I think I can speak for most of us when I say the disappointment was thick enough to be cut with a knife (or punctured with a stiletto).

So, I am left wondering if Britney's plea "Gimme More" is not just a hook but also a cry for help: give her more therapy, or space, or time or independence. And give us fewer pretend-turnarounds and more of the Britney Spears we used to love, when Britney's "Toxic" was a song blowing up the airwaves and not simply another way of saying Britney makes me sick.

A&E likes you more than we like Britney Spears!
Want to write?
Contact ndietsch or astagner for more information.

PLAYLIST: HomeworkWHAT?

by Nicole T. Dietsche '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Did anyone else get back to school and get slapped in the face with an immense work load? Yeah, get in line. Here are some great songs that keep me from getting too distracted from... ooh, shiny...

1. "Dancing For Rain" by Rise Against - One of my favorite old-school Rise Against songs. It starts acoustic and then rips into overdrive, making it a great song to kind of sort of ease yourself into that ten page essay.

2. "Salty Eyes" by The Matches - The video for this song is pretty fantastic, so if you need to procrastinate, Youtube this one. I saw these guys live this summer at Warped Tour, and they were fantastic. They used this song to mock the hardcore band that was playing right before them: what's the opposite of a circle pit? A waltz! Listen to the song and you'll understand. And yes, we all waltzed.

3. "Hands Held High" by Linkin Park - One of my favorite songs off of LP's new album. Mike Shinoda raps the verses and Chester Bennington sings the chorus: "With hands held high into a sky so blue/as the ocean opens up to swallow you." It's the perfect mix of genres and is a pretty awesome anti-war song.

4. "Die, Die My Darling" by The Misfits - This song is dedicated to my homework. I want it to die. To exist no more. That's pretty much why this song is on the list. That and because the Misfits are awesome.

5. "I'm Not Okay" by My Chemical Romance - Catchy, simple and definitely my sentiments exactly, this song is the epitome of how you feel when doing homework on Sunday. Or a Saturday. Actually, I think I'm the only one who does homework on Saturday. I have THAT much.

6. "Here It Goes Again" by OK Go - Every time I hear this song, I think of treadmill dancing and it immediately makes me smile. At the very least, it will brighten your day, and we all know that it's the little things that make the big ones seem less huge.

7. "Nancy Boy" by Placebo - A great song about tawdry deeds, this song is off of one of Placebo's earlier albums when they were rocking the venues of London, drinking...tea and enjoying the after-show party.

8. "Don't Stop Me Now" by Queen - Queen is amazing and Freddie Mercury is a rock god. Used beautifully in "Shaun of the Dead", this song will have you "trav'ling at the speed of light" and dreaming of zombie bashing.

9. "False Pretense" by Red Jumpsuit Apparatus - Rocking song that will somehow keep your fingers moving over the keyboard as you desperately try to finish your concluding paragraph... five minutes before class.

10. "Cute Withouth The 'E' (Cut From The Team)" by Taking Back Sunday - I just realized how old-school this song list is. This song is from TBS's first album, when Jesse Lacey of Brand New was still in the band. It's a great song, is even better live, and has the angry pop-punk beat that makes homework (barely) bearable.

11. "Possum Kingdom" by The Toadies - You KNOW this song, even if you never knew the name of the song... or the band for that matter. Yes, it's a 90's power ballad! It's also on Guitar Hero for XBox 360, so you can practice your Star Power deployment in your mind while you work on that Physics problem set... Ouch.

WHCL 88.7fm Fall 2007 Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
6am	Off The Air	Off The Air	Off The Air	*Revisionist's Take* Davis	Off The Air	Off The Air	Off The Air	6am
7am								7am
8am				*Start Fresh* Frankievich				8am
9am				*tba* TBA				9am
10am						*From Nega to Poji* Poon	*Peaches & Cream* Dormanen/ Shockley	10am
11am		*The Underground* Boddorff/ Walker-Grey				*Electronic Surgical Words* Flaherty/ Oberholtzer/ Westphal	*The Hippodrome* Owens/ Vano	11am
12pm		*Untitled #1* Ryan/ Schneider	*Afternoon Delight* Vial	*Jeff's Amazing Mix* Escalante	*Fervently Eclectic* Richardson	*NBD* Ferrara/ Football/ Hannon/ Scott	*bifurcations* Collins/ Paquin	12pm
1pm	*The Old Oak Tree* Cueni/ Schacht	*Super Fun Music Time* Cutler	*The Power Hour* Perkowski	*Cupcakes for the Blind* Helmuth		*Football/TBA* Football		1pm
2pm	*Known Elements* Marcus		*Talkin' Jazz With Monk Rowe* Rowe		*Conga Fury* Hellerer	*Football* /Overkill* Stanco/ Stanco	*X-Viper Hour* Hoying/ Jenkins	2pm
3pm	*Liberal Arts* Giuliano/ Ng	*Tomorrow Never Knows* Kral		*And The Dreidel Will Rock* Zellner	*I Lost Count* Payne			3pm
4pm	*Carnegie 202: Live* Donahue/ Murphy/ Pallin	*The Morning Show* Chamberlin/ Petrey	*Baby, Let's Make It Happen* Bryant/ Graham	*The Mix* Goddard	*Hymen Radcliffe Show* Cook-Wilson/ Peart	*Fikus Tree* Goodwin/ Mortati	*What a Rack!* WHCL Staff	4pm
5pm	*Jacked Up* Chuff/ Conway					*Oh Oh It's Magic!* Kral/ Stadnyk	*Poppycock!* DeFrank/ Ossola/ Schuck	5pm
6pm	*BackSlash* Eichenfield	*Assistant Whatever* Welsh	*From Where I Sit* Britt-Hysell	*Le Monde Francophone* Hemonin	*Retro Country* Fuller	*Minority Report* Paschal/ Young		6pm
7pm		*untitled #4* Hahn	*Wolf & Wolf* Pajak/ Richardson			*Getting' Jiggy With It* Bullard/ Farhana	*Natalie's Radio Show* Sullivan	7pm
8pm	*Anywhere But Here* Mead		*CAB* Barnes/ Holdredge/ O'Brien	*Ravinspace* James	*Radiola!* Senior	*Retro Radio* Fuller	*The K-Man & Granny Show* Granato/ Koury/ Notaro	8pm
9pm		*Untitled #5* Moroney	*Rhymes with Kumquat* Pavach					9pm
10pm	*Hard and the Heavy* Rico	*Untitled #6* Morgan	*The Danger Zone* Bryan/ Everett	*mmmmm. Indie.* Fedrizzi/ Taliaferro	*Emo Hour* Fellows/ Wall	*Gully Tactics* David	*Corn on the Cob* Bowman	10pm
11pm			*The Disco Infiltrator* James/ Mandeville/ Mockler	*Jed Davis' Show* Davis	*Doin' Time Radio* Clark/ Hassell/ Niden		*Lost In Transmission* Bloomquist/ Stanton	11pm
12am	*The End is Near* Damico/ Jafri	*Frontier Psychiatrist* Kaplan	*Mi Colita* Collins	Off The Air	Off The Air	Off The Air	*I Do What I Want* Sosa/ Thomas	12am
1am	Off The Air	Off The Air	*Subterranean Sounds* Deyo/ Schoeneck				Off The Air	1am
2am			Off The Air					2am
3am								3am
4am								4am
5am								5am

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Bringing the Green Game : The Democrats

by Kye Lippold'10
Science & Technology Special Correspondent

The 2008 presidential election campaign is already robust, with intraparty wrangling over primary calenders, record sums of money raised, and candidates leaping in and out of the race for the Democratic and Republican nominations.

This year has also seen environmental concerns take a new hold on public attention. The March 2007 Gallup Poll showed a 50% increase since 2004 in the number of Americans who said they personally worried about global warming "a great deal" (26% to 41%). Other environmental issues--from air pollution to acid rain to toxic waste contamination--showed around 5% percentage point increases in major concern. It seems that former Vice President Al Gore's crusade to increase global warming's prominence through his film and presentation An Inconvenient Truth (presented last year at Hamilton through the Sacerdote Great Names lecture series) has been a success.

So what does environmental concern mean for voters' decisions in 2008? When Newsweek asked voters on August 1 if global warming would be an issue in their 2008 vote for Congress, 70 percent of Democrats and 35 percent of Republicans said it would be a factor. While statements about Congressional voting cannot guarantee the importance of the environment in the 2008 presidential race, it is safe to say that the environment is not far from the minds of a substantial number of voters (particularly Democratic voters).

It seems fitting, then to examine the environmental platforms of each of the candidates for the 2008 nominations. Let's begin with the Democrats, since the environment is clearly a more important political issue to Democratic nominees, who must placate the environmental wing of their party to achieve success. Next week, we'll examine the Republicans from a more economic angle.

There should be no surprise that the Democrats all have adopted pro-environment platforms, with the most conservative goals (as recorded by the League of Conservation Voters) endorsing at least 80 percent reductions in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, a 33 miles per gallon fuel efficiency standard for all cars and trucks, requiring utilities to use 20 percent renewable energy sources by 2020, and a reduction of 10 percent of American energy consumption in twelve years. However, there are some important nuances to the candidates' plans.

First off, we can get a sense of the Democratic candidates' certifiable records on the environment by looking at the percentage of the time they voted according to the wishes of the League of Conservation Voters, an interest group that collects data on environmental voting (as defined by 20 environmental organizations) and seeks to elect politicians with pro-environmental policies. The table below captures these scores for the duration of the candidates' terms in Congress.

These ratings suggest that Barack Obama leads the Democratic field in records of environmentally friendly voting, although his high score reflects only a few years of congressional voting history. But Obama's stated environmental goals are not quite as green as some other candidates; he cosponsored the strongly pro-environmental Boxer-Sanders climate bill only after three months of backing a less stringent bill, has accepted nuclear power as an energy option, and only differs from the basic Democratic plan (summarized above) with a desire to raise fuel efficiency to 40 miles per gallon by 2020. Furthermore, his positive stance on liquid coal (transforming coal to a fuel for automobiles), probably adopted to appeal to Illinois coal interests, has earned him ire from www.MoveOn.org and other progressive groups (according to Grist). However, he has introduced bills to reduce tax breaks to oil companies and supported a low-carbon fuel standard that would promote biofuels.

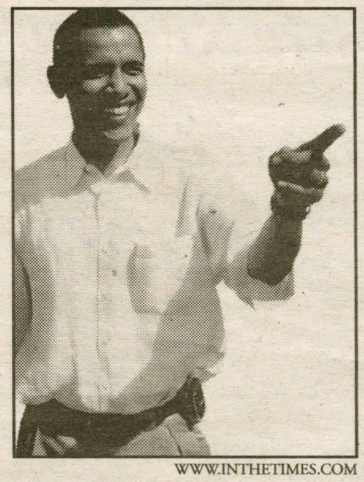
The second place candidate, Dennis Kucinich, has called for a "Works Green Administration" to create millions of jobs installing clean energy technologies. He has also advocated a phaseout of all nuclear and coal technology, and advocates 20 percent renewable energy usage by 2010. However, his low standings in major polls reduce his power to implement these more far-reaching ideas.

Hillary Clinton ranks third

*See **Democrats**, page 21*

Comparison: Experience and Records

Candidate	LOCV Score	# Years in Congress
Joe Biden	84	34
Hillary Clinton	90	7
Chris Dodd	77	32
John Edwards	59	6
Mike Gravel	N.A.	12
Dennis Kucinich	92	10
Barack Obama	96	3
Bill Richardson	82	14



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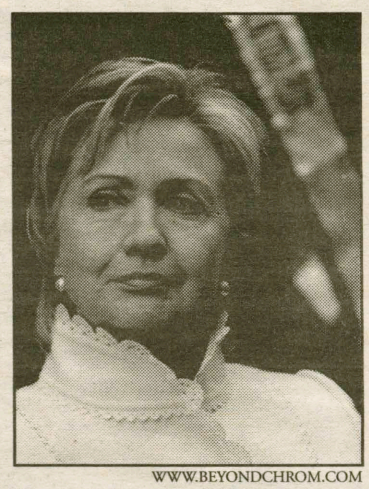
Sen. Barack Obama has the highest LCV score.



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Sen. Hillary Clinton remains middle-of-the-road.

Research @ Hamilton: Jonathan Wexler '08

by Elijah LaChance '10
Science & Technology Editor

Any scientist knows research is time-consuming. Most researchers, both at Hamilton and in the world at large, wait years to see the results of their labor, but Jonathan Wexler '08 got to see his work put into operation before he started his senior year at Hamilton. Under the advisement of Associate Professor of Physics Gordon Jones and Professor of Mathematics Larry Knop, Wexler updated and perfected previously existing programming – and also completed new computer code – for programs integral to the Spallation Neutron Source in Tennessee Oakridge National Labs in Nashville, TN. Beginning in mid-July, Wexler spent a month installing these programs and overseeing their operation at the facility, which provides a controlled source of neutrons for experiments regarding subjects as diverse as the composition of antimatter and the origin of the universe.

PHOTO BY ELIJAH LACHANCE '10

Jonathan Wexler '08 carried out his research in three states.

Wexler explained the concepts behind his project with knowledgeable enthusiasm. "The basic system is that an infrared laser hits a glass bulb that is filled with rubidium and Helium-3," explained Wexler. Helium-3 has two protons but only one neutron, and that neutron can "spin" in either one of two ways, which are magnetically different. These two ways are "spin-up" and "spin-down," and the infrared laser charges the rubidium, which changes all the helium-3 to its spin-up form by canceling the helium that is spin-down. These neutrons are then said to be "polarized." The polarized spin-up neutrons are released in eighteen different beams, each one of which can be used for a different research purpose at any one time. This process of laser bombardment is known as optical pumping and, while extremely beneficial to scientists – especially physicists – the world over, the process is acknowledged to be dangerous. The job of making the process safer fell, among other people, to Wexler.

"The biggest issue is making sure you know the status of the neutron beams at all times. It's almost impossible to analyze the beams directly, so the programs I worked on analyze the Helium-3 instead," explains Wexler. To get an idea of the duties he undertook in

*see **Research**, page 21*

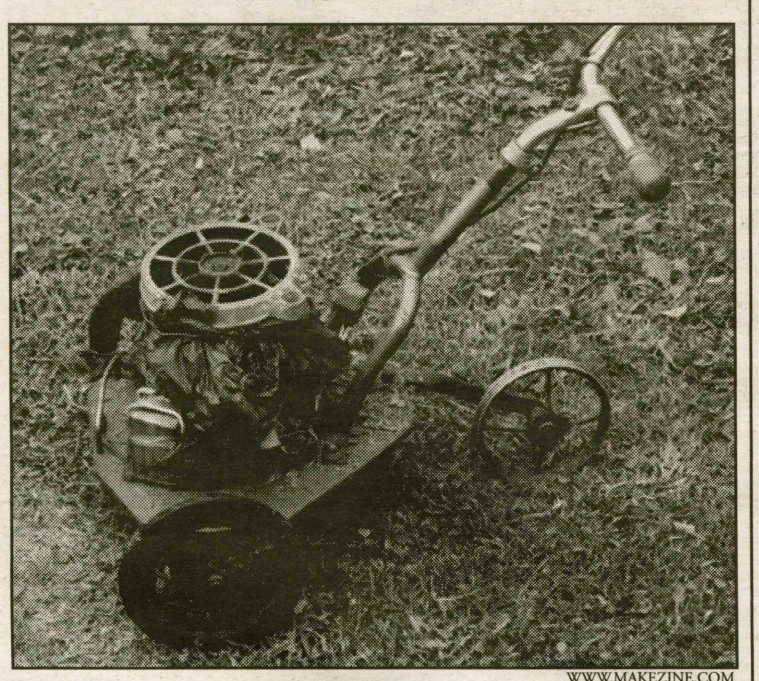
Did You Know That?

Wacky Facts: Animals

by Tara Apo '10
Science & Technology Writer

- ***The largest earthworm on record was found in South Africa and measured 22 feet.***
- ***A baby octopus is about the size of a flea when it is born.***
- ***A giraffe is able to clean its ears with its own tongue.***
- ***A leech has 32 brains.***
- ***A slug has four noses.***
- ***Dolphins can swim and sleep at the same time.***
- ***When threatened, the horned toad shoots blood from its eyes.***
- ***Kangaroos cannot walk backwards.***
- ***Mice will nurse babies that are not their own.***
- ***A scallop has approximately 100 eyes around the edge of its shell.***
- ***Sheep can differentiate between the faces of other sheep like humans do. A sheep can remember up to 50 faces.***
- ***The original name for butterfly was flutterby.***
- ***The sex of a baby crocodile is determined by the temperature in the nest.***
- ***The tuatara, a reptile resembling a lizard from New Zealand, has three eyes: two in the center of its head and one on the top of its head.***

What's on the Web?
Weekly Website Review
Makezine.com



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This lawnmower, made from a tricycle, is one of many gadgets you can learn to construct at Makezine.com

by Kate Tumarello '11
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WRITER

Rating:
(out of 5 beakers)

Have you ever had the irrepressible desire to build an LED cube? Do you actually know what an LED cube is? If so, then Make Magazine and its website are built for people like you.

Make Magazine dedicates itself entirely to promoting the "Do-It-Yourself Mindset" and is a place where people who like to examine, take apart, and build technology can come together to share ideas. Founded in 2005 by founder, editor, and publisher Dale Dougherty, this magazine aims to bring its readers "technology on your time."

While a subscription to this quarterly magazine is $34.95 for the year, much of its interesting content can be accessed on its website, Makezine.com. Some casual perusing of the site will result in the discovery of things you've never thought about but now want to do, or have thought about forever and still want to do.

The first place to check out would be the blog. This is where all the recent intriguing items are posted. Some of the things posted here, like the iPhone SIM unlock application that I can't even pretend to understand, are beyond the reach of an average college student. Still there are simpler entries that will inspire even the least technological minds, like the spherical dodecahedron made of Dixie cups.

To motivate any technological inclination you can explore the project section of the site. Here you'll find a list of kits you can buy from the Make Magazine company store and a link to the Make group on Instructables.com. The free Instructables.com will give you a list of how-to's posted by other users. If you're looking to make anything from a terra cotta beer chiller to homemade fireworks, you'll find the instructions here.

If just reading the instructions doesn't do it for you, there's the podcast section of the site. Here you can watch movies that take you through the steps to complete some pretty bizarre projects. Examples of these projects include building a Rubik's cube out of dice and magnets and knitting with cassette tape or fiber optics.

To see some of these wacky projects, those who are truly dedicated to Makezine.com, or "makers," go the Maker Faire, the large scale science fair that takes the promotion of the "Do-It-Yourself Mindset" a step further in bringing it to people in a real, tangible way. Here you can see projects focused on arts, crafts, engineering, the environment, music, and other sciences. Unfortunately, the Maker Faire is being held all the way in Austin, Texas on October 20 and 21. The next one is being held on May 3 and 4 in San Mateo, California, where the magazine was founded.

For all of us who don't own a private jet or happen to live in either of these cities, the content of the website and magazine will have to keep us satisfied. If you're going to spend nearly as much unproductive time on the computer as I do, take a minute to look at Makezine.com. It's a better alternative to checking your Facebook for the thousandth time.

PROFESSOR PROFILE
Ashleigh Smythe, Biology

COURTESY OF ASHLEIGH SMYTHE

Prof. Smythe has also worked as a guide for an in-depth high school summer camp at the Smithsonian.

THE FACTS:

Name: Ashleigh Smythe
Department: Biology
Hometowns: Middleburg and Vienna, Virginia
College (B.S.): UVM (University of Vermont)
College (M.S.): Southeastern Louisiana University
Ph.D. Work: University of California, Davis
Postdoctoral Research: Two years at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History
Research: Ocean nematodes

INTERVIEW SECTION:

Elijah LaChance: If you were to describe yourself in three words, what would they be?

Ashleigh Smythe: Askew, askance, asquirrel.

EL: What areas of biology most interest you and why?

AS: I am primarily interested in evolution, because I like to try to understand (and imagine) how organisms are related and have changed over time. The animals I use to study evolution are nematodes – unsegmented worms. They are the most abundant and diverse multicellular animals on the planet – and believe it or not they are really beautiful!

EL: How did you eventually choose to teach biology for a living?

AS: I really like biology, and I get pretty excited about it, so teaching is the natural way to share my enthusiasm.

EL: Why Hamilton?

AS: I like Hamilton's small class sizes and smart students – both of those make teaching so much fun. I also like to do research, and the Hamilton community appreciates research by faculty and allows faculty to get students involved in research.

EL: What is your funniest and/or most embarrassing childhood memory that you wouldn't mind sharing?

AS: When I was about twelve, I spilled an entire bucket of paint all over the sidewalk in front of my dad's store – green paint – not brick sidewalk color at all. I was so upset until my dad reminded me that his store was a hardware store, with paint, and that there was plenty more where that came from.

EL: Do you have any habits students might notice? If so, what are they?

AS: I tend to spell very badly when I write on the chalkboard. Words that I can spell fine on paper end up mangled on the board – I think the chalk dust interferes with my brain.

EL: What is your favorite band or singer, your favorite ice cream flavor, your favorite book, and your favorite home-cooked meal?

AS: I don't really have one favorite of anything, as I have pretty varied tastes. Currently though, I am listening to a lot of Jonathan Coulton, reading Neal Stephenson books, eating Breyer's mint chocolate chip ice cream, and I like to cook chile rellenos.

EL: What would you say is your teaching style, and what can students expect who are in your classes?

AS: I guess my teaching style can best be described as enthusiastic, so students can expect me to get excited about strange animals they've never even heard of.

EL: What was the craziest thing you did in college you wouldn't mind sharing?

AS: I don't recall doing anything particularly crazy in college – did I waste my youth?

EL: Other than the Science Center, where can students expect to see you around campus?

AS: Students will likely see me at music concerts in Wellin Hall, the sushi bar, and the pool.

SCI & TECH EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday, Sept. 16:
BioMatters Discussion Circle "Sleep: How Much Do We Really Need?
7:00 p.m. Biology Lounge (SCCT)

Tuesday, Sept. 18:
HEAG (Hamilton Environmental Action Group) Meeting
8:00 p.m. Glen House

Tuesday, Sept. 25:
Sandra Steingraber, Author, *Living Downstream*, a presentation of the Diversity and Social Justice Project
7:30 p.m Fillius Events Barn

Thursday, Sept. 27:
Rafael Campo, Physician and Poet
Co-sponsored by the Diversity and Social Justice Project and the English Dept.

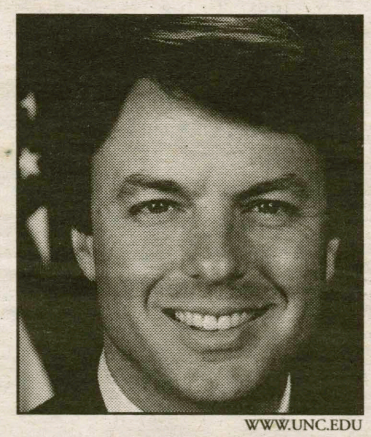
"Fact vs. Truth: Examining Health Disparities Through Diverse Illness Narratives"
4:10 p.m. Chapel

Poetry Reading
8:00 Fillius Events Barn

General: Remember, Science and Technology wants your science jokes! The competition is heating up; the best jokes will be published in the first October issue.

"THE SCIENTIST IS NOT THE PERSON WHO GIVES THE RIGHT ANSWERS; HE'S ONE WHO ASKS THE RIGHT QUESTIONS." ~CLAUDE LÉVI-STRAUSS

Democrats Boast Green Field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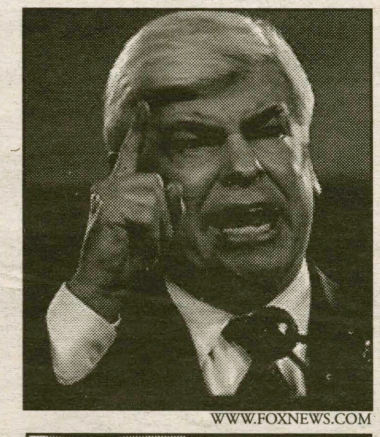
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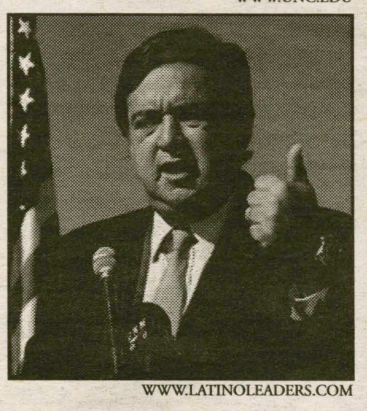
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Clockwise from top left: Edwards, Dodd, Kucinich, and Richardson each have their environmental upsides.

*from **Democrats**, page 19*

the LCV, but her environmental platform is arguably the least ambitious of the Democratic candidates, and includes support for liquid coal technology (she points out that "coal – of which we have a great and abundant supply in America – is not going away"). This continues her trend, described by Kevin Curtis of the National Environmental Trust, of holding a pro-environment voting record but hesitating to endorse policies personally. However, she has called for the creation of a fund raised from taxes on oil company profits that would help pay for clean energy technology, and has explicitly called for the U.S. to halve use of foreign oil by 2025. Like Obama, she has signed on to the Boxer-Sanders climate bill, but again after a three-month delay.

Governor Bill Richardson has tried to distinguish himself on environmental issues, and his platform is the most stringent in calling for 90 percent reductions in greenhouse gases by 2050, a 50 miles per gallon fuel standard for both cars and trucks, and 50 percent use of renewable energy sources by 2020. He has stressed his roles as Energy Secretary in the Clinton Administration and as Governor of New Mexico in giving him leadership experience to confront environmental concerns, arguing that "policy itself must change" to address energy and climate issues.

Other candidates leading the green pack in terms of specific commitments include Senator Chris Dodd and Senator John Edwards, both of whom have agreed to five percent higher energy consumption reductions and higher fuel efficiency standards. Dodd has further committed to a carbon tax (unlike the carbon cap or cap and trade systems suggested by every other candidate but Gravel) and a 50 mpg standard for cars.

Edwards may be trying to make up for his poor LCV score (partly caused by his missing key votes while campaigning for president and vice president in 2004, according to Grist) by taking a strong environmental platform in 2008. He was the first candidate to endorse the target of 80 percent greenhouse gas cuts by 2050, which may have pressured other candidates to make similar promises. He has also made investments to offset carbon emissions from his campaign, opposes nuclear power, and supports a ban on the construction of new coal plants.

Senator Joe Biden's credentials are in foreign policy, and as such he has sponsored a resolution urging the United States to participate in United Nations climate talks. His platform is as good as the average among Democrats, and he has supported expanding gas pumps for biofuels. Former Senator Mike Gravel's policy has not been clearly defined, although he has indicated that he supports rises in gasoline prices as an incentive to reduce energy consumption, supports a carbon tax, and has supported but not outlined plans for liquid hydrogen to replace oil.

For environmental voters, 2008 looks to be a promising year—whichever Democrat is nominated will hold a strong record on environmental issues. The question will be how to sort out the rhetoric from the reality if a Democrat does take the presidency.

Please note: Information in this article is for educational purposes only, and should not be considered to endorse any candidate.

CRAZY: Some Notes on Insanity

by Elijah LaChance '10
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Since my first installment of "Crazy: A History of Mental Institutions," I've received a number of questions that deserve answers. First, "craziness" or "insanity" is not an actual disease or disorder. It is a general term, somewhat derogatory in certain contexts, used in an attempt to describe any mental disorder that causes its victims to act in a distinctly "abnormal" manner. While people with schizophrenia, cerebral palsy, autism, brain cancer, Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, and Down Syndrome have more or less always been considered as falling into the general category of "insane," this label is a gross oversimplification of these people's conditons. In many cases, people with these disorders are able to make many decisions for themselves, but do require constant, or at least periodic, assistance with basic tasks such as preparing and eating food and using the restroom. Various programs exist today for people with these conditons to live in relative normalcy.

During the heydey of mental institutions - the 1800s and early 1900s - people without mental conditions were also placed in mental institutions. These people included, but were by no means limited to, political activists, people who displayed homosexual tendencies, people of foreign religions to the conutry in question (this problem particularly plagued Muslims, Buddhists, and Orthodox Jews) and even debtors at times. In this sense, some mental institutions tended to resemble jails, a situation that logically decreased the levels of care for those people who actually had mental disorders. As a result, the concept of an "insane asylum" came to imply a place where people were holed away and ignored, a perception that was true in all too many cases. A place that should have cared for the daily needs of its inmates had become a monstous new form of confinement.

Neutron Source Research

*from **Research**, page 19*

Tennessee, Wexler paid a visit in early June to the polarized neutron source at the Argonne National Labs in Chicago. "The two sources [the Chicago neutron source and the Oakridge SNS in Tennessee] are essentially the same except for the fact that the Oakridge source has eighteen neutron streams, while the Chicago source only has nine," said Wexler, who commented that he enjoyed the travel.

"I was really interested in this research because I would get an opportunity to travel and a chance to see my results put into practice," Wexler said. "I was well-qualified because I'd taken Computer Science 110, and this project needed someone who knew computers." Wexler's work until he goes to Tennessee consisted of updating computer code and the interfaces used by people doing research. "For example," says Wexler, "there were a lot of buttons on the interfaces at the start of the summer that people at Oakridge never used. I removed them and put in new buttons for functions they wanted or needed." Wexler explains that the project was made more difficult by the fact that there are two different ways to control the programs. "One is faster and more reliable, but the other is more accurate. One of my main jobs was to make sure both of these systems worked and that people could jump between them without getting confused," he said.

Wexler is a physics and math double major, a choice that may sound intimidating but he insisted is, "really fun if you like the subjects like I do." Wexler eventually wants to go to graduate school and pursue a career in experimental physics, doing research. He said that the current research he did and the experiences he had this summer, "have hopefully prepared me for what I want to do with the rest of my life. This was not an isolated thing." Wexler appeared during the interview to be as much at home with his fellow human beings as he is with computer code and polarized neutrons; he said when he's not directing the ebb and flow of helium-3 and infrared lasers, he can be found performing Scottish country dance.

Opening Week in NFL: Key Games Reviewed

by Rob Neighbours '10
Sports Writer

Indianapolis Colts and New Orleans Saints: Kicking off the 2007 NFL season with a bang Thursday night, Peyton Manning led his Colts to a 41-10 rout of the New Orleans Saints. In a game that was supposed to be a shootout between two unstoppable offenses, the Colts certainly lived up to the hype when Manning threw for 288 yards and 3 touchdowns. The Saints, however, were not able to demonstrate their dominating offense because their young tailback, Reggie Bush, was held to only 38 rushing yards.

New Orleans quarterback Drew Brees did not have a spectacular performance either, as he threw for only 192 yards, no touchdowns, and two interceptions. The Colts defense, usually criticized as a weak point of the team, stepped up huge and gave up only 3 offensive points (the Saints lone touchdown came off of a fumble recovery by cornerback Jason David).

Buffalo Bills and Denver Broncos: The Bills faced the Broncos this weekend in an all out defensive effort, very much the reverse of the Saints-Colts game. Special teams player Roscoe Parrish led the Bills to a good start by returning a punt for a touchdown in the first quarter.

From there, the next quarter and a half of football was a shamble of stalled out drives. Both teams combined for nine drives ending in punts, field goals, missed field goals, or interceptions. The Bills ended the scoreless streak in the middle of the third quarter when Marshawn Lynch used his tough running style to get a 23 yard touchdown run.

Denver responded right back with a Jay Cutler touchdown pass to Brandon Marshall, but they were unable to convert on the ensuing two-point conversion. Denver, down 14-12 with less than two minutes left in the game, gained control of the ball and managed to drive down the field and score a game winning field goal as the clock expired.

The biggest story of the game came from a devastating injury to Kevin Everett. During a kickoff return, he sustanied serious damage to his spinal cord upon making a tackle. He was immediately lifted onto a stretcher and headed to the hospital for surgery. As of right now he is still in critical condition, but he has voluntary movement in his legs and extremities. If he continues to progress at this rate, there is a great chance that he will be able to walk again.

Dallas Cowboys and New York Giants: Basically every aspect of the Giants- Cowboys game was a surprise to most fans. Predicted to be a more balanced, mid-scoring game, involving a lot of running from both teams' multi-back rotation, the quarterbacks ended up in the spotlight.

Eli Manning has been hassled his whole career by the media for having mediocre throwing accuracy and sub-par decision making skills. However, when running back Brandon Jacobs went down with a sprained MCL early in the game, Eli stepped up and threw for 312 yards with four touchdowns and one interception.

Similarly, Tony Romo of the Cowboys had four touchdowns and one interception, barely besting Manning with 345 yards. Jacobs (expected to miss 3-5 weeks) wasn't the only Giants player with an injury Sunday night. Pro Bowler Osi Umenyiora left the game early, but his prognosis does not look as bad as Jacobs'. Eli Manning also didn't play the last drive in the game due to a shoulder aggravation. There are mixed reports out on his status for the next few weeks. He met with esteemed doctor James Andrews for an MRI, which showed minimal damage, but the Giants team physician concluded that Eli should take the next month off with surgery.

New York had an early lead when Plaxico Burress caught a nice touchdown pass. Dallas scored 17 unanswered points and never gave up the lead. The Giants made a decent comeback effort, but for both teams it was a constant flow of scoring all the way until the end of the game, with a final score, Cowboys over Giants 45-35.

New York Jets and New England Patriots: Everything went as expected in this game, as the Patriots routed the Jets 38-14. Tom Brady played up to par with 297 yards, three touchdowns and no interceptions. The big story for the Patriots was their brand new receiving core involving Randy Moss, Donte Stallworth and Wes Welker.

Although Stallworth only caught one pass for 19 yards, Welker caught six passes for 61 yards and a TD, while Moss tallied up nine catches for 183 yards and a TD. Jets QB Chad Pennington had a decent game with 167 passing yards and 2 touchdowns but he was in and out of the game with an injured ankle. He is not expected to play in the team's upcoming game this weekend.

The Patriots defense did a good job of slowing down the Jets running game, as new tailback Thomas Jones was held to only 42 yards and backup Washington carried the ball for 15 yards. The Patriots offensive line played tremendously and did not give up a single sack.

The Jets offensive line, however, gave up five sacks. Patriots linebacker Mike Vrabel accounted for two and a half of those sacks starting the season on a positive note.

The most troubling issue came from a photographer on the Patriots sideline. The photographer had camera equipment that was being used to spy on the Jets defensive play calling. The NFL Commissioner has ruled that the Patriots violated league regulations and will be subject to receive an appropriate penalty. This could come in the form of lost draft picks or a fine; either way it still hurts the Patriots.

Field Hockey Team's Hard Work Pays Off in Win

by Abby Perer '09
Sports Writer

With the 2007 Hamilton Field Hockey season underway, it looks as if we can expect a strong season from the Continentals. Under the direction of second-year Head Coach Gillian McDonald and first-year Assistant Coach Kirstin Anderson, the team (1-1) looks to improve from their 2006 record of 5-9.

Despite their less-than-perfect record last season, they finished the season on a four-game winning streak. The team hoped that some momentum would carry over to this season. They opened the year with a home game against Utica College (2-1) on September 5, at Campus Road Athletic Field.

Although the Continentals fell to the Pioneers 5-2, there were plenty of signs to indicate that this season could be a great one for Hamilton. There have already been signs of strong senior leadership from Sarah Wiener '08 and Jess Goldberg '08 especially, who contributed the two goals in the loss to Utica. The team as a whole has showed tremendous hustle on the field. The girls showed that they will be working hard this season to leave their mark on the Liberty League.

On September 8, the hard work paid off as the team rebounded from their loss to Utica to defeat SUNY Morrisville (0-3) 6-0 at Campus Road Athletic Field. The Continentals had a solid start to the game, but it was a little slower than they would have liked, going into halftime with just a 1-0 lead.

The second half was a different story, as they went on to score five goals and played exceptionally good defense to keep the Morrisville Mustangs scoreless.

As sweeper Olivia Gambir '09 put it, "The win against SUNY Morrisville really showed a lot about the character of our Hamilton team this year; we pushed ourselves and only got stronger as the game went on."

As far as Coach McDonald is concerned, the five senior leaders, Amy Barrows '08, Natalie Schwerin '08, Marley Berns '08, Wiener, and Goldberg will define the character of this year's team.

In her words, "We are very fortunate to have a dedicated senior class with tremendous leadership capabilities. I believe that the success of our team this year will be a direct result of our five seniors and their strong leadership."

PHOTO BY JOHN HUBBARD

Courtney DeMaria '10 makes a save against SUNY Morrisville.

When asked about her expectations for this season, Coach McDonald said, "We have a lot of potential and it's going to be a matter of putting everything together and getting the new players to gel with the old." So far, it seems to be coming together very well indeed, with the young players on the roster making their presence felt on the field early on this season.

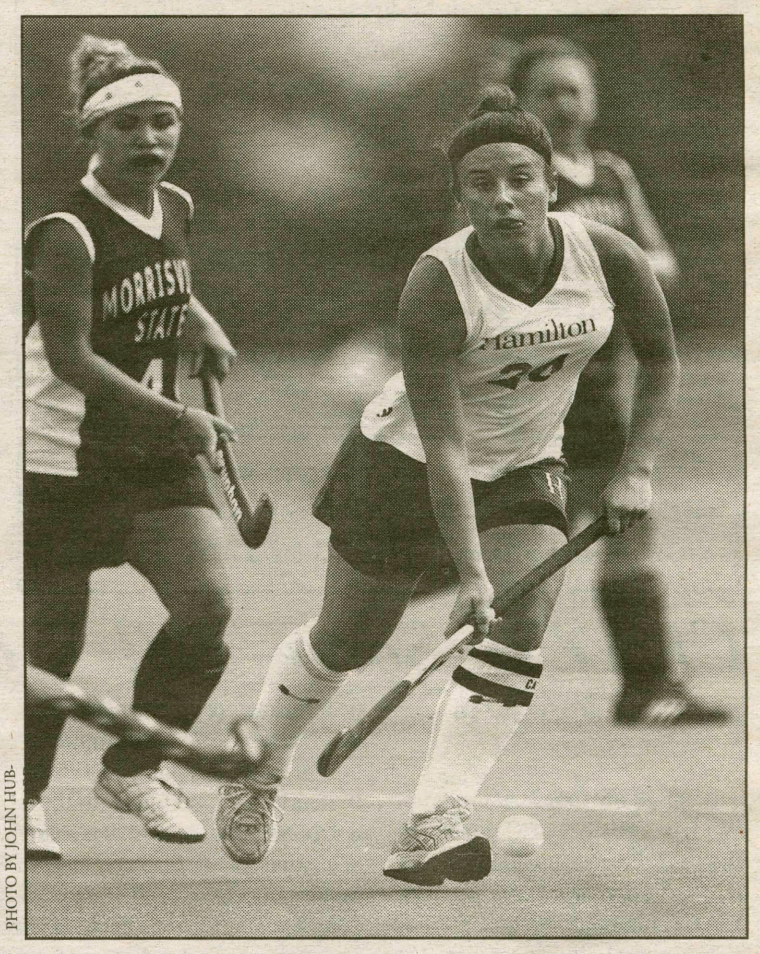

PHOTO BY JOHN HUBBARD

Amy Barrows '08, midfielder, has three assists this season.

Forward Colleen Callaghan '11 recorded an assist against Utica and three goals against SUNY Morrisville. As a result of this outstanding performance, she earned the Liberty League award for Rookie of the Week. Goalie Courtney DeMaria '10 made eight saves in her first two games in goal.

Captain Berns is not worried about it all coming together; she thinks that the team has "incredible depth this season and everyone seems to be bonding on the field and off; this bond will give us a chance to achieve our ultimate goal of making it to the Liberty League playoffs." With great performances by the veterans and rookies alike, this will be a big year for the team.

SPORTS

Volleyball Team Enters League Play This Weekend

by Brandon Leibsohn '10
Sports Editor

The Women's Volleyball Team has played well so far this season. Although the team has not yet managed a win, the team has made considerable strides in improving and gaining valuable experience.

To open the season, the Lady Continentals went to Ithaca College to participate in the Ithaca College Bomber Invitational last weekend. On Friday, the team played a double header against two very good teams. Against Baptist Bible College, the Continentals were able to win the first game and force a fourth game during the match. Although the match did not turn out to be a win, it was a great way to get the new players involved in competition. Amber O'Connor '09 continued to be a pivotal contributor having added 13 digs during the match. Joanna Fier '11 was impressive as she collected 14 digs to go along with the team high, nine kills. Another newcomer, Kelsey Lawler '11 led the team in assists during the match with 25.

After losing to Baptist Bible in the season opener, the Continentals had little time to recover because they faced another tough opponent in SUNY Brockport. This match presented the team with a chance to rebound. However, the team was unable to collect a win during their three game match. All of the games during the match were very competitive, which shows that the Continentals can compete against some of the best teams in the country. Lawler and Fier continued to impress, as they remained consistent in their performances.

The tournament ended on Saturday with another double-header. In what turned out to be the best match of the tournament for the Continentals, they came just short of a win. The team won the first game against Widener University and then lost three heartbreakers to complete the match.

The team even forced one game to go into overtime and lost by only two points. Jasmine Jolly '10 and Amber O'Connor '08 led the way and continued to show veteran leadership out on the court.

The final match of the tournament was tough. Ithaca College had their way with the Continentals and eased to a three game match with two lopsided victories.

Hamilton opened at home this past Tuesday night against conference foe, Williams College. The Continentals were playing against an undefeated team, but they maintained their level of effort and consistency during the three game match. Despite losing to Williams, many positives can be taken away from the match. The team finally has its rotation set and many of the underclassmen have provided a huge boost to the team. Lawler, Fier, and Alex Singh '11 have been very consistent with their play and if the team finds a way to convert on all of their talent, then there should be no reason why the Continentals should not be successful this season.

This weekend will provide the team with a huge test. The Continentals will play against three conference rivals at Tufts University. Amherst College will be the team's opponent on Friday, September 14. Amherst has been dominant so far this season in its matches. Most of its opponents have had trouble collecting even 20 points during a game. Hamilton will have to be prepared for this and remain confident.

On Saturday, the Continentals will face Tufts and this should present the team with a chance to come away with a victory. Tufts is 1-4 so far to start the season and lost all of their four matches in three game sweeps. In the final match of the weekend, Hamilton will take on Middlebury College. Middlebury has started the season strong by winning three of their first four matches.

The Continentals will have to be the top of their game this weekend to move forward and garner some victories. The team should be up to the challenge after having spent last weekend gaining invaluable experience. If the team can continue to rely on its underclassmen, effort, and determination, then turning the season around should not be very difficult to do.

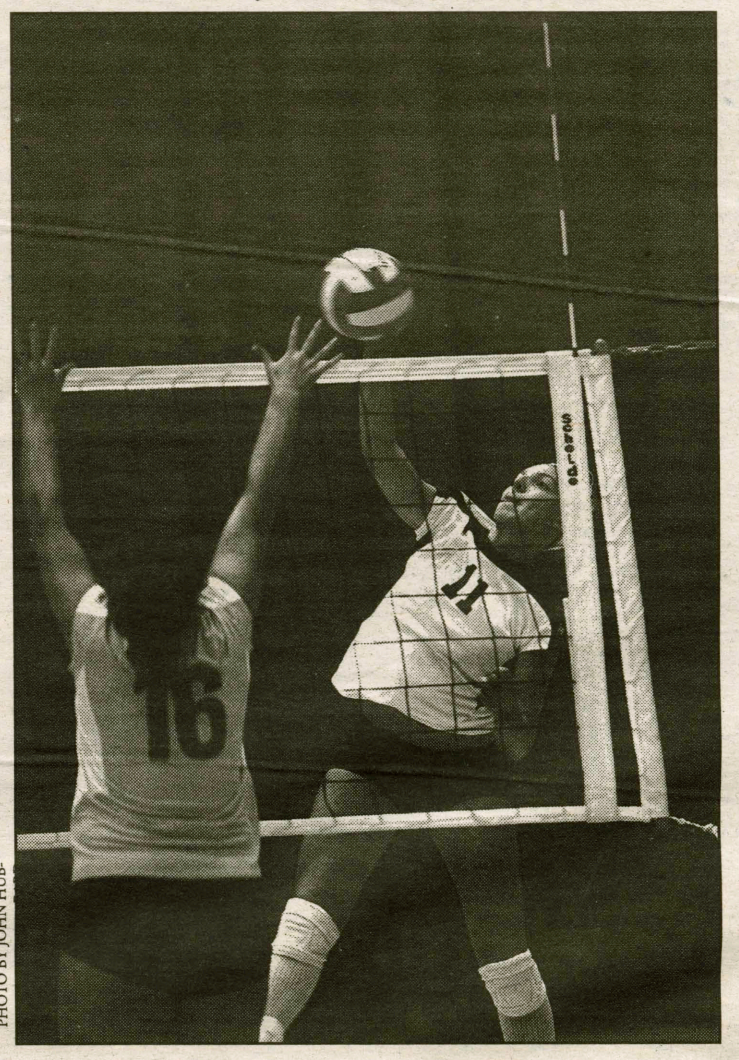

PHOTO BY JOHN HUB-

Jo Fier '11 had a team high with nine kills and 12 digs.

Steriods: Double Standard?

by Tim Eismeier '10
Sports Writer

On August 7, 2007, Barry Bonds hit a 435-foot home run into the right-center field bleachers of AT&T Park in San Francisco. With that home run, Bonds passed Henry Aaron on the all-time home run list. During the course of that historic night in San Francisco, the fans chanted, "We love you, Barry." Barry Bonds gave a short, emotional address, Willie Mays came out to hug his godson, Bonds, and even Henry Aaron gave a prerecorded speech praising Bonds. All seemed right in the world.

Unfortunately, both Barry Bonds' alleged steroid use and the general issue of steroids in baseball seemed to completely dwarf these proceedings. Barry Bonds can no longer hit a home run, or even appear on television, without someone bringing up the issue of steroids. In some ways he has become almost synonymous with steroids.

Here are some statistics to think about. From 1986 to 1999, Barry Bonds had hit 411 home runs, had 445 stolen bases, eight all-star selections, and eight gold glove awards. During this period, Bonds averaged a home run every 16.1 at-bats. These achievements would have earned Bonds a first-ballot Hall of Fame election. He turned 35 in 1999.

Then, at an age when most players are past their prime, Bonds apparently entered his prime. Since 1999, he has hit a home run every 8.9 at-bats. His shoe size has gone from a 10.5 to a 13, his jersey size went from 42 to 52 and his cap size went from 7.125 to 7.25 even after he shaved his head.

Despite all this, it is crucial to recognize that Barry Bonds was by no means the only baseball player to use steroids; far from it. Prior to 1998, only twice had a player hit 60 or more home runs in a season. Then, from 1998 to 2001, six players accomplished the feat. Many experts, however, believe that steroid use in baseball goes far beyond the most obvious examples of Mark McGwire, Barry Bonds and Rafael Palmeiro. In fact, it is ridiculous to think that steroid use is confined to Major League Baseball.

Eight hours and a little over 500 miles southeast of San Francisco when Barry Bonds hit number 756, Shawne Merriman was participating in two-a-days at the San Diego Chargers training camp. Merriman, defensive rookie of the year in 2005 and two-time pro-bowler, was suspended four games during the 2006 season for a violation of the NFL's steroid and related substances abuse policy. Even after the suspension, Merriman had a tremendous season, leading the league in sacks and finishing in third place in the voting for Defensive Player of the Year.

I wonder if a baseball player could ever win an MVP, Cy Young, or even a Gold Glove award after testing positive for steroids. I would not think so. So why are baseball players held to a much higher standard than pretty much every other professional sport in terms of steroids?

It is a tough question to answer. I would argue that part of it is that records, such as the all-time home run record, are valued more in baseball than in most other sports (Did anyone really care when Brett Favre took a dive so that Michael Strahan could break the season sack record?). Baseball also has many more statistics that are able to measure strength than do other sports.

For whatever reason, fans and sportswriters do hold baseball players to higher standards than other athletes when it comes to steroid use. Maybe some day there will be perfect testing for performance enhancing drugs in every sport. Until that day, many fans will continue to watch every home run, hit, and sack with a slight cloud of doubt and suspicion in their minds.

Do you watch Sportscenter four times a day?

Support the Continentals at every home game?

Write for *Spec* Sports!

Contact (lgetman) or (bleibsoh)

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SPECTATOR SPORTS

September 14, 2007

Men's Golf Team Surges to a Strong Start

by Andrew Harris '11
Sports Writer

Trying to live up to high preseason expectations, the Men's Golf Team began its season this past week with two important tournaments. The Continentals were not only looking to improve upon their record, but also to build some confidence for the championship tournaments later in the year.

On September 4, the team traveled to Oswego Country Club to take on SUNY-Oswego. The Continentals won by a comfortable margin, 530 strokes to Oswego's 543, with the top seven scorers on each team being counted. Driving the team to victory were Jeff Corbett '09 and Phil Preiss '10. They both shot scores of 1-over par, 72, a career low for both at Hamilton.

Kevin Osborne '09, Dave Christie '09, and Brad Roche '11 shot 73, 74, and 78, respectively. It was Roche's first collegiate round, and hopefully it foreshadows a productive career as a Continental. To complete the scoring, Mike Hayes '08 fired an 80, and Dan Treichler '08 an 81. Winning this one-on-one meet was a good opportunity for the team to find out its true potential, especially with a Division I tournament at Colgate a few days away.

The Colgate Fall Invitational, on September 8 and 9, featured fifteen teams from across the Northeast and Canada. With the exception of Hamilton, every school in attendance was either Division I or II.

The team was focused on finishing in the top two-thirds, which would be a big achievement for a Division III school. The two-day tournament promised to be a stern test of the squad's ability, and the competition did not disappoint.

In the first round, the team played exceptionally well, finishing in a tie for fifth place, with 308 strokes. Roche shot a blistering 73, putting him right near the top of the leader board, and Christie fired a 76 to pace the squad.

The Continentals slipped a little on the second day, firing a combined 325 to take tenth place in the tournament overall. Roche finished in twenty-first place individually, while Christie followed up his 76 with an 84 to finish in a tie for thirty-ninth place with his teammate Treichler, who shot consecutive 80s. Corbett finished with two scores of 79 and took home thirty-fifth place overall.

Hamilton finished six strokes ahead of Colgate's B Team, and two strokes behind Division II Le Moyne. With this experience at a high level of competition, the team now will set its sights on a home match against Le Moyne on September 12 and then the two day Duke Nelson Invitational at Middlebury College on September 15 and 16. With the knowledge that they can compete with some of the top schools in the area, the Continentals are well on their way to a successful season.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DAN TREICHLER '08

Dan Treichler '08 shot an 81 against SUNY Oswego.

This Weekend in Hamilton Athletics:

Friday 9/14:
Volleyball v. Amherst College @ Tufts University
Saturday 9/15
Volleyball @ Tufts University
Field Hockey @ SUNY Cortland
Cross Country (W) v. Union College
Cross Country (M) v. Union College
Golf (M) @ Duke Nelson Invitational
Tennis (W) v. Union College
Soccer (M) @ Ithaca College
Volleyball v. Middlebury College @ Tufts University

Go Blue!

Early Success on the Track

by Kate Greenough '09
Sports Writer

As most students begin to bundle up for a long, and often frigid, autumn, the Men and Women's Cross Country Teams are just heating up. After a promising start at last weekend's Rochester Institute of Technology Invitational, the Continentals are looking forward to a fruitful fall season.

The men's squad is led by Coach Brett Hull, who is in his seventeenth year as coach of cross-country and track and field. Coach Ellen Hull leads the women's team for her fifteenth year at Hamilton. With seasoned staff, experienced runners, and promising underclass talent, the Continentals appear to be able to keep pace with some challenging NESCAC and Liberty League competitors.

The team is looking to sensation Peter Kosgei '10 to bring home the majority of their points. Kosgei, who only competed in one race last fall season, will undoubtedly boost the men's overall record and team morale with his comeback. In the 2007 outdoor track season, his first season as a competitor in the steeplechase, the Kenyan runner showed he was worthy of national competition. He earned All-American honors after taking the tape in the NCAA Division III Finals. In last weekend's RIT Invitational, Kosgei stayed on top with a first place finish in 25 minutes and 37 seconds, averaging a 5:09 mile. His finish earned him honors from the NESCAC league, as Cross Country Performer of the Week.

With Kosgei heading up the pack, the rest of the squad hopes to follow his lead. "Now that we have someone like Peter consistently finishing on top, we have to focus on bringing the rest of our scoring runners closer to him in order to edge out competitors," said Brad Vollkommer '08, a team tri-captain with Allan Guiney '08 and Will Bartholomew '08.

Vollkommer added, "We can show teams that we not only have a dominant force in Peter, but we also have strength in numbers and depth."

Guiney has been a force to be reckoned with in past seasons. He was Hamilton's frontrunner in the 2006 cross-country season, finishing in eighteenth place out of 144 runners at the New York State Track Collegiate Championships and he was the sole Hamilton competitor to receive All-State honors. At the RIT meet, Guiney took home seventeenth place out of 76 runners with a time of 27 minutes and 59 seconds. Strong finishes by upperclassmen Will Reid '10, Peter Woodruff '09, Devin Lynch '11 allowed the team to be competitive. Underclassman Scott Bickard '11 showed prospective talent in Saturday's meet as he was able to come in thirteenth place. He was also the second Hamilton runner across the finish line.

The Women's Cross-Country Team took second overall in the RIT Invitational, falling short to University of Rochester, who won with 36 overall points and ten finishers in the top 25. Becky Mackenzie '08 earned fifth place with a time of 20 minutes and 45 seconds, followed by Meredith Fitzpatrick '11 with a time of 20:56 and Gen Flanders '09 with a finish of 21:09.

Mackenzie, the team's strongest runner, earned All-State honors with by finishing in twentieth place in the NYSCTC meet. Hannah Wolcott '08, Katy Lafen '10 and Chelsea Stone '10 have earned Hamilton crucial victories in the past and should help the team dominate in both league and state competitions.

Both the men and women's teams are training hard for their next meet against Union College, which they will host on the Hamilton course on September 15. Hamilton will also be the host of the annual Hamilton Invitational that will take place on October 6.